

D-2.38.

OBSERVATIONS

ON:

Monsieur de Sorbier's

VOYAGE *en* *Pole*

INTO

ENGLAND.

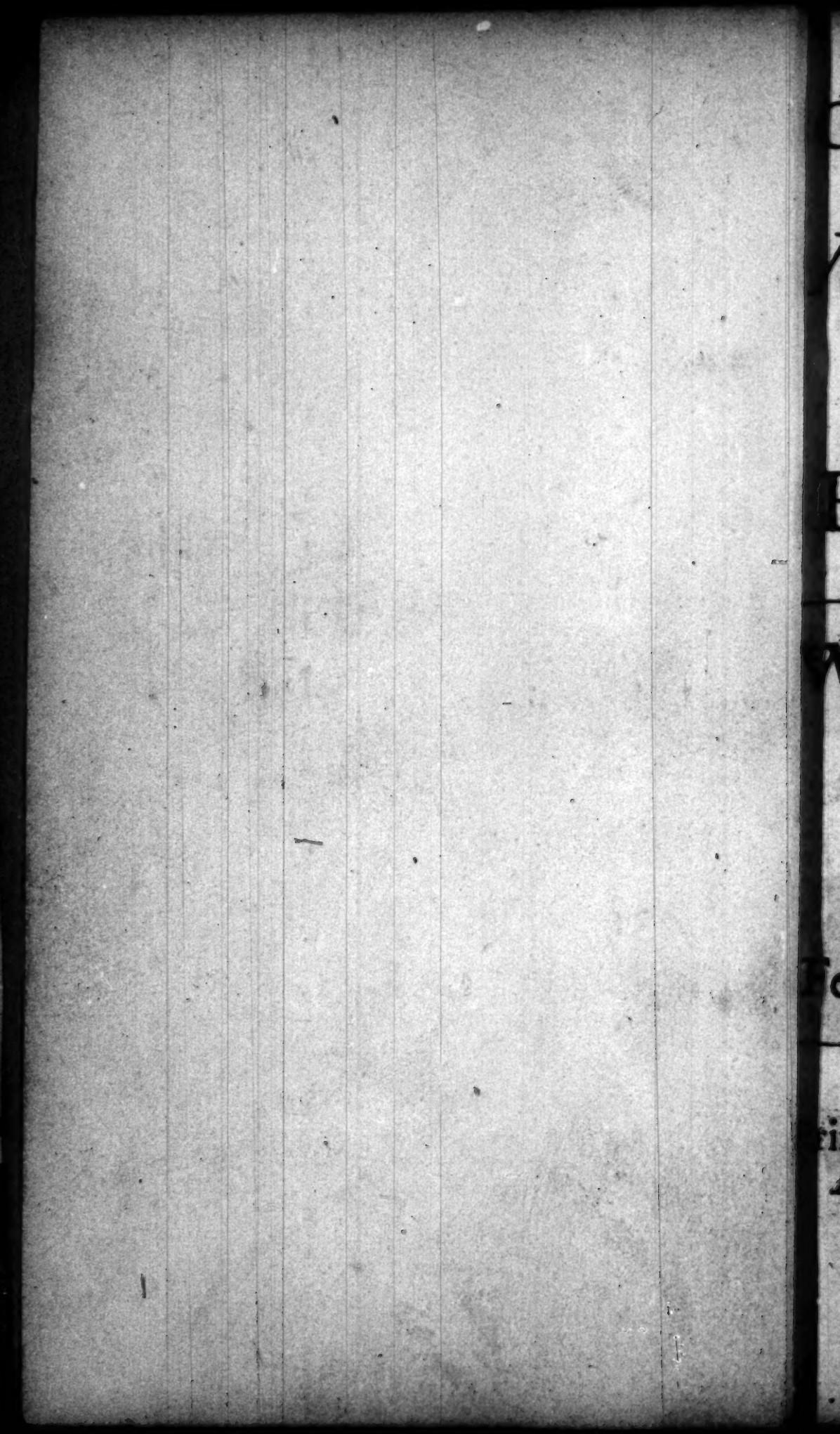
Written to Dr. WREN,
Professor of Astronomy
in Oxford.

BY

THOMAS SPRAT,
Fellow of the Royal Society.

LONDON,

Printed for John Martyn, and James
Allestry, Printers to the Royal
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закончилась
этот эпизод.
Что же мы можем
здесь сказать.

СИДАБОЙ

S 78

и я в Rare Book
Collection of the Royal
Society.

ТАКИЕ СЛОВА
я вижу в Royal Society.

ПОДКАЗ

и я вижу в Royal Society.

27605 Three Pote

LETTERS

Containing some Observations

On Monsieur de Sorbier's

Voyage into ENGLAND.

Written to Doctor WREN,
Professor of ASTRONOMY
in OXFORD.

By Tho. SPRAT.

sed poterat tutior esse Domi-
s I R, Here send You
the Account in
which Monsieur
de Sorbier has gi-
en of his Voyage into Eng-
land.

116873

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
gland.* And though it be
an insolent Libel on our Na-
tion, yet I doubt not, but
you will peruse it with de-
light. For when you have
beheld how many errors,
and falsehoods, he has com-
mitted in this small Relati-
on; you cannot but be well
pleas'd to find, that who-
ever undertakes to defame
your Country, he must at
the same time, forfeit his Wit
and his Understanding, as
well as his good Manners.

The King of France hath
already given him an effec-

April

&c.

equal Answer. And it became the Justice of so great a Monarch, while he was defending the Interest of the Christian Faith with his arms, to punish a pragmatically Reviler of one of the most powerful Kingdoms in Christendome: and while he was exacting satisfaction from the Pope himself, for an affront offer'd to his Ambassador, to take care that none of his own Subjects should presume to injure the reputation of his neighbors, and nearest Allies.

B 2 This

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's

This just Reply which has been publicquely made to this rude Satyr, was the cause that it has not bin hitherto confuted by an *English Gentleman* of your acquaintance, who had undertaken it, whose Wit wee might have oppos'd against him, if he had still flourisht at *Paris*, with the Title of *Historiographer Royal*, though all his mighty boasts of his own abilities had been true. But however, though he is now below our excellent Friends consideration ; yet

I think my self ingag'd to see him corrected. For having now under my hands the *History of the Royal Society*, it will be in vain for mee to try to represent its design to be advantageous to the glory of *England*, if my Countrymen shall know that one who calls himself a member of that *Assembly*, has escap'd unanswer'd in the publique disgraces, which he has cast on our whole *Nation*.

I will therefore Sir, briefly take him into a calm examination.

B 3

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
amination. And that you
may understand how I in-
tend to proceed with him,
I do here in the beginning
profess, that I will not im-
dicate the honor of the En-
glish, by making reflections
on the French. I will not in-
avour to repair our own
fame on the ruins of others.
I will have no contention
but with himself. I will only
put together, and compare,
the mistakes, the incohären-
ces, the vanities of his Book.
And (to confess a secret to
you, Sir,) I am resolv'd to
not printing e B take

take this course in answering him ; not only because I abhor the sordid way of Wit, of abusing whole Nations : but also because I am not much inamor'd of the glory of his punishment. For I cannot think that it is worth a mans while, that can live quietly here at London, to have the honour of making three or four ill-natur'd jests, on a whole Kingdom, with the hazard of being justly banisht into Flint or Denbigh for ones dauber. as tribus libet est

I must confess Sir, I came at first to read him with some expectations. I had before seen what he had written in praise of those two great Men, the Ornaments of France, Gassendus, and De Marci the Arch-Bishop of Paris. And I had some good hope, that the familiarity, which he pretended to have had with them, had taught him some of their good Qualities: that from the first he had taken that candour, and modesty, which the world admires in his writings;

writings : and from the other he had learn'd with what respect he ought to treat the fame of whole Nations, *Churches*, and *Sovereign Princes*, by that admirable defence, which he has made of the *Gallican* privileges. Besides this, Sir, I took his Book into my hands with the greater good-will, because I had some knowledg of his person : I had seen him at the *Royal Society* : I had been a witness with what civility he had been there entertain'd : I had been inform'd

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
form'd what kindness he had
receiv'd at *Oxford*: I had
heard what favour the King
had shewn him, by admit-
ting him to private discou-
ses with him in his Cabinet.
And from all this I was in-
couraged to beleive, that he
had given an honourable, or
at least a just description of
England. But I quickly per-
ceiv'd how much I was dis-
appointed: I presently saw
what difference there is be-
tween scribbling fine Haran-
gues on virtuous Men, and
real virtue it self. I strait
found

found that instead of the good intentions, which he says, Pref. he never wants, the greatest part of his Treatise consists of ill-grounded reproaches: that he has ventur'd on many things, whereof it was impossible he should receive an account: that where he might be suppos'd to have some tolerable knowledge, his malice has perverted his understanding: and that through the whole course of his Observations, he has by his own example made good that character, which he often

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
ten in this Book bestows on
humane Nature in general,
that mankind is most pleas'd
with trifles, and that we are all
credulous and Lyars.*

In his *Epistle Dedicatory*,
he assures the most *Christian*
King, that the principal motive
of his journey, was a desire to
advance his *Majesties* glory.
The Design was commend-
able, and worthy an *Historio-*
grapher Royal. But what
course did he take to in-
crease his renown ? he says,
that he travell'd abroad, on
purpose to spread throughout
the

the world, the fame of his Majesties munificence to himself. I beseech you, Sir, how long will your English modesty overwhelm you? how much reason have You real *Philosophers*, and *Mathematicians*, to have high thoughts of your selves, if it shall be allow'd to a man, who has onely got some name by creeping into your companies, to beleive himself so considerable, that his Masters liberality to him ought to make to all mankind admire his Magnificence? The *Christian*

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
French world has better signs
of the greatness of the King
of France's mind; his armies,
and money have been hono-
rably employ'd against Al-
giers and Constantinople. A-
midst all these glorious ex-
pences, what a mighty sound
does it make, that the famous
Monsieur de Sorbiere did re-
ceive a small stipend out of his
Treasury?

But that you may the
better understand, who this
great man is, that can either
exalt, or diminish the ho-
nor of Princes with a word
of

of his mouth : I intreat you
to hear his own description
of himself. I will onely
repeat in his own words, the
praises, which in the compa-
pafs of a few leaves, he has
given his own merits : by
which you may gheſſ how
unjustly he has misplac't, the
titles of *proud*, and *arrogant*, p. 133.
when he bestow'd them on
one of the beſt NATURED, and
baſhfulleſt Nations in the
world. He brags, that he
has ſpent all his life, in ad-
vancing the reputation, and
fuſtaining the intereſts of the
E.Ded.
Sciences ;

E.Ded. Sciences ; that he has always
push't on, and encourag'd the
great Masters of Knowledge to
labour : that he has made a

P. 201. noyse wherever he came : that
he has got a discretion how to

E.Ded. judge of good things : that he
has mingled himself in the in-

E.Ded. trigues of the Muses ; that he
has been so happy, as to be beard
by them, and to get some credit

E.Ded. amongst them : that he holds
a constant commerce with the

Pref. chief heads of Parnassus : that
he has either been acquainted
with all the learned men of the
Age, or has had certain infor-
mation

intention concerning him: I think E.Ded.
this King did not favour him,
without understanding him
well. This mislq 9th assyed w
-to Now Sir, M would fote a
any man that reads this con
clude, that Monsieur de Sore
biente is his own Historian,
more than the King of France
is with this conformable to
his own Rule, which he had
sayes he prescribes to himself] P. 93:
now too makes Elogies on my
man? Before he had done
to have said so much of him in
his, thought he not to have
exceeded in fulius Scatiger simi
lēas

C his

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
his Learning, and his nobi-
lity, as well as he has done
in his spite to our Country?
whereas the plain, and the
true story of Monsieur de Sor-
bier's life, is only this, he was
born at Orange, and for a
long time profess'd the Pro-
testant Religion; all or the
greatest part of his Writing
had been only some few
Letters, a small Panegyric
or two, a translation of Mr.
Hobbes's de Cite, into French,
this Description of England
and another of Holland. His
first Employment was to
aid C teach

1791d Voyage into England do
teachra younger Son of the
Count de la Suze, then he was
made Usher into a Schole in
his Native City. In both
these places he lost upon
suspicion of some hetero-
dox opinions in the funda-
mentals of Christianity, and in
this discontent he came to
Paris, renounced his Reli-
gion, and became Papist. And
at last, by many insinuations
and flatteries, he obtained to
have the profits of a small
Canonship of Avignon settled
upon him. This Sir, is all
the Bruit that Monsieur de

P. 201.

C. 2 Sorbiere

Objections against Mr. Serbier's
Serbier has made in the
world. And this Confi-
dent of the Muses, this Dau-
king of Parnassus, this Favou-
rite of Goldsmiths, this Com-
panion of Gentlemen of Pro-
vinces, this Genius of Na-
tions, this Judge of Tongues,
though he still devote to advantage
himself by the Religion, all
the offices of Church and State, no ig-
norant office whom of all Pe-
ople, in the other never yet
neglected his preachment; though
pitiful Sinner he is of all day long
the dicemess and fear... in it no qu-
ies And yet you have no real
evidence C son

1. His Voyage into England and so
 before thinking that he has been
 wanting to himself all this
 while, seeing him in this very n^eed
 p^ole from find him in plain
 terms beseeching his Majesty,
 that he would employ him. Tis
 a modest request. But what
 other place is there which he
 can desire ? he saies that he
 has already been gloriſh'd with
 the title of Trumpeter. Afoot
 P. 201. E.Ded.
 this, whither would his Amu-
 bition lead him ? In the
 Maner of Letters (given me E.Ded.
 leave no prosecute his owne
 Metaphor) the name of
 Trumpeter best becomes him
 E.Ded. C 3 For

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Fool according to his Brother
the Trumpeter's defence of
himself in the Fable.)* It is
never requir'd of such offi-
cers, that they should run-
gag[e] in the fight, or do any
Rebel Service, but they are
only in this disforia *shev[er]*, and to
shake a noysa. And it is often rea-
sonable As for his other Quali-
fications of an *Historiographer
Royal*, it will be shew[n] you
in one instance how he de-
serves it.) He tells his King
that he has reported in every
Country where he came, the pro-
digious benefits that heaven had
bestow'd upon him.

beap'd upon him : that to the Statesmen he has proclaim'd his Industry in business, and the strength of his judgement : to the Souldiers, his Valour : to the Friends of the Church of Rome, his Piety : to the Grandees, the Pomp of his Court : and to the Fair Sex, his good Mien. These, Sir , are all Brave words, and he had a glorious subject, whereon to amplifie. But let us consider the authority of his testimony. For Monsieur de Sorbiere, the Kings Historiographer, when he might have had so much

Observations on Mr. Soubrier's
much better intelligence
when he might have alleg'd
the witness of all the brave
men in France, & does yet so
openly declare, that he re-
ceived the image of his own
Prince's virtues, from the best
part of Madam Ficinus. At least
of whom he met with acciden-
tally at Calais, in his ship.
Upon the very entrance
into his journey, as soon as
he sets forth from Paris, he
gives evident proofs of the
lightness, and vanity, of his
mind. From what he had
said before in his own com-
mendati-

recommendation. I began to fancy in my thoughts, a great Philosopher, going forth with the intent to survey all civil States, that he might bring back their profitable Acts, and enrich his Native Country with them. I call'd to mind the Examples of Pythagoras, Solon, Thales, Plato, and almost all the first wise men amongst the Grecians; who were wont to make long voyages into Egypt, and the East, for such honourable purposes. And upon this thought I was inclin'd to forgive

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
forgive him all his former
Boastings, and to look on
them only as pardonable
imperfections, which some-
times accompany great Wits.
And hence, Sir, you may
think how much I was fur-
pris'd, when I saw that the
first fruits of his travels were
~~an account of the pleasant com-~~
~~pany, that he had on the way,~~
~~of certain Polacks, that spoke~~
~~English, that could play on the~~
~~Pianoforte, and that gave him a~~
~~dance twice a day.~~ But
hold Sir, I will not give him
this occasion, to confirm the
sygnot sentence,*

sentence, which he has past upon us, that the English are of a gloomy, extravagant, fanatick, melancholy humour. I am content to allow him these divertisements. It was fit that he, who went forth to civilize barbarous Nations, should be attended as they were of old, with harmony. Yet you cannot but be delighted, when you observe the choice that he made : that he who undertook to censure, and refine manners, and to promote inventions, he who talks of nothing less than

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
then intriges with the Muses,
should find nothing worth
mentioning in his journey
from Rari to Calais, but the
Musick, and the dancing of
Poland. Seeing his skill is so
good, in one of the liberal
Arts, seeing he was so well
satist'd in France it self, with
a Fiddle of Cremona, or Wat-
ford, I wonder why he would
come into England to search
for Philosophy, and had not
rather gone to the famous Uni-
versity of Mosco. And yet Sir, to speak the
Truth, I can easily pardon
them.

Monsieur

Monsieur de la Salle being desirous
 to go to a Poliphogy in this
 not the worst thing, so
 which he has expected this in
 glification of other Country.
 He was sum'de quid of his
 School of Prizy, forthcoming
 an Specification of his
 we may well see how this
 be in Hastings in their
 flocks, seeing he was soon in their
 Divinity, or the world
 to do this jolly posture? he
 and verba; Cadeis, who were the
 said Irvin Kelly, Mardon, Fries,
 and others, invited him, when
 they were introduced by Monsieur de
 Courtebonne.

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Garrison. Monsieur de Sor-
bier waits upon her brother.
The entertainment pleas'd him:
For this be commends his Host,
for one of the most accomplish'd,
and obliging Gentlemen in
France. And he professes, he
thought himself bound in Con-
science to make him this pub-
liche acknowledgment. What
is so blam'd in all this?
what could be more cou-
lly? what a glorious sign of
a scrupulous, and tender Con-
science, than to oblige him
self so much ingag'd to be
grateful for a good Rotten
Commodity?

what greater recompence could a Royal Trumpeter make to Monsieur de Courteline, then thus to sound up his meat? hitherto all is well. But now, Sir, I pray recollect, whether he deals so fairly, and religiously, with your fellow Professor, Doctor Willlis? to whom, for giving his good cheer, for a hearty welcome, for shewing him the University of Oxford, for imparting to him many pleasures, which he himself confesses were admirable, he has return'd no other thanks P. 94
digisvni then

Observation Mr. Setbier's

P. 100. there only a ridiculous description of his Cap. A very ill blood
P. 14. At his landing at Dantzic
and was saluted with all hand-
givings by the Boys. & Mr.
thinks the handsome entertain-
ment that he got with others of
his return, might have mov'd
him to conceal his ill usages.
Although the master is self, &
the master was not worth
speaking off, for he might
have consider'd that it is an
ordinary thing for Boys
to make a great kind
of noise for Sack-Master to see
when he takes breakfast & inveigh

inveigh against the rudeness P. 14.
of the whole English Nation
I have already, Sir, ingag'd
my self, to forbear compari-
sons: or else, I might per-
haps very justly, contradict
what he says, *that the Eng-
lish are always welcom'd at
Deli, and Calais, with so much
obliging care.* We are indeed
with care enough. For the
inhabitants of those places
seiz on every part of us, some
catch our Cloaks, some our
Hats, some our Cloak-bags:
and when we are by piec-
meals brought to Shore, our

D officious

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
officious frinds demand their
own rates for having thus ob-
lig'd us: so that sometimes we
can scarce know, whether we
should call it a Landing, or
a Wreck. This, Sir, is more
then a verbal Incivility. Yet
I make no Conclusion from
hence against the whole
French Nation, but only a-
gainst the *Porters*, and *Mari-
ners*, of *Diep*, and *Calais*. And
the same Right ought *Mon-
sieur de Sorbiere* to have done
us. He should not have
presently exclaim'd against
the whole *Kingdom*, for that

which is only to be attributed to the ill Discipline of Dover-Schole. This, Sir, may serve to give you some light, what kind of Judg we are like to find him in matters of greater weight: and when you read, that he *al-* P. 12.
ledges no other sign of the English Courage, then that their Butchers are delighted with the noble Combats of Bulls, Bears, and Dogs: I hope you will remember, that it is the same Man, who is here wise enough to pass a General Rule, concerning the English ill
manners,

*Observations on Mr Sorbier's
manners, from the Rude beha-
viour of the Children of one of
our Sea-Towns.*

Yet, to do him right, in
this particular, he does not
cast all the blame on the
English: but he involves
P. 15. the *Dutch*, and the *Italians*,
in the same common Crime.
He here complains, that as
we call the *Frenchmen Dogs*,
P. 15 so the *Dutch* upbrayd them
with the approbrious name
of *Mushromes*, and the *Itali-
ans* with the worse term of
Fools. For my part, I think
all this by no means to be
justifi'd,

justifi'd, if the accusation be true. But however, how does this consist, with that Flatt'ry which he uses to his KING, that whereever he came, he found the whole world ready to submit to the French Empire? What says he now? Is it probable, that all Nations are willing to make France the Seat of a Universal Monarchy, when at the same time, he assures us, from his own experience, that the unusual Titles, which their Neighbours bestow upon them, are those of Dogs, Fools, and Muzzernes?

E.Ded.

.Q.1

.81.1

D 3 The

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
sd. The next part of his
Journy is from Dover to Lon-
don. His errour about the
distance between these two
places I forgive: though in
threescore miles be mistakes ten.
All the evil touches which
he here gives, concerning the
Disposition of the English,
I reserve for their proper
place. But I must take no-
tice how particularly the
Historiographer Royal de-
scribes the *Waggoner* of Can-
terbury. The Horses were ty'd
one before another: The Dri-
ver cloth'd in Black: a brave
and Mountero

Mountæro on his Head: a jocund fellow; mighty well satisfy'd with himself: a great Droll: in all things appointed like another Saint George. What think you now Sir? may we not after this beleive that *Tom Coriat* is one of the cheif Heads of Parnassus, with whom he has converst? Where lyes the Difference between these two Learned Authors? That famous countryman of ours was just so curious in his Relations: neither Horse nor Man could escape his Pen: on his

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
host's Beard, and his Sign-
Post he still declaymd
Here are only wanting the
Frenchman's Bills of Fare
every night, and you might
have sworn, that Monsieur de Sorbiere had inheri-
ted the great, and inquisi-
tive spirit of the Noble Tra-
veller of Odcomb. Now this
will not here much in-
sist on the Irreverence of
this zealous Roman Catho-
lickin, as we shall afterwards
find him to be: though me-
thinks it was not well done
of him, to object to the En-
glish*

glish their calling Saint Paul, P.42.
by the familiar Name of Paul ;
when he himself has com-
par'd one of our chief Saints to
a Waggoner. Nor am I much
concern'd to see him so pun-
ctual in describing the Wag-
goner of Canterbury to his
Shirt, and yet not to make a-
ny mention of *Thomas Becket*,
and *Austin the Monck*, the re-
nowned *Saints* of that place.
But yet I will here tell him,
that though he was so care-
less of his *Religion*, he might
have conceal'd this Char-
acter of the *Waggoner* upon a-
nother

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
nother account : For he will
hardly be able to perswade
his Reader, that the best way
to spread the report of the ma-
gnificence of his Patron, was
to ride to London in a Wag-
gon.*

*P. 26, surveying the Bay-Windows
27.*

of Canterbury. He fully describes the Bowling-Greens, P. 22. and the very Rowlers, that make them smooth: he speaks so Romantically of the Val- P. 22, lies, the Hills, and the Hedges 23, 24. of Kent, that the Authors of *Clelia*, or *Astrea*, scarce ever venture to say so much on the like occasion: he commends the convenient Form of P. 29. Rochester Bridge: which he says, is so contriv'd, that mens Hats cannot be blown over. Who can deny, but in all this he is a very circumstantial, and Faithful Relator?

But

Lancastown

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's

But I pray, Sir, mark, that he spends very many more lines in speaking of each of these *Toyes*, then of the most magnificent *Arsenal* at *Chatham*, which lyes just below that *Bridge*. Of this he only in passing says, that here our *Ships of War* are built, and here they are laid up, when they return. And has he not here unawares betray'd the Levity of his own mind? where then was his *Philosophical Curiosity*? where his discretion to know good things? where his Love for Great, and Wonderful

Wonderful Arts,? what was
a fitter Prospect to have
stop'd at? where could the
antient, or present *World*
have shewn a nobler Sight?
For there, in one view, he
might have seen the *Ships*,
that command the *Ocean*:
that make this small people
that he despises, terrible to
the ends of the Earth. We
confess we yield to the
French in the Beauty of their
Cities, and *Palaces*: But in
our floating *Castles* we outgo
them as much. He is in the
right, that about *Paris*, there
is

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
is a far greater number of good
Buildings: But the Suburbs
which London has on the
Thames, and Medway, make
a sufficient recompence for
this defect; as long as we
exceed all the World, in the
Fabricks of Strength, and
Empire, we may easily al-
low him to object to us our
want of those of Pleasure.
And without question, the
Sovereign, the Charles, the
Prince, the James, the Henry,
the London, the Resolution,
and above an hundred more,
the best in the World, might
have*

have been thought worthy naming by him, that almost reckons up the *Windows*, and the *Cellars* in *Canterbury*, and expresses himself so well satisfy'd to see, that there was care taken, that a plume of Feathers should not be disorder'd upon Rochester Bridge.

In his Description of London, he affirms that it is bigger then Paris; and that it is a vulgar error of his Countrymen to think otherwise. And to manifest how vast he beleives its extent to be, he professes, that he would not undertake

P. 32.

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
undertake to frame an exact
Idea of it in his mind, under a
whole year's time.* This, Sir,
methinks, might have admo-
nish'd him, that if he was
not able to take a full
draught of one City in less
than twelve Months, he has
been very presumptuous, (let
me return upon him his own
word) to conceive that he
could give a Character of
the Genius, and Vices of our
Nation, of the Constitution,
and Corruptions of our Church,
of the Weaknesses of our Go-
vernment, of the Pedantry of
our

our Learning, and of the Barbarousnesſ of our Lan-
guage, in three Month's time.
This consideration ought
certainly to have stop'd his
Pen a little, especially ſeeing
the Streets, and the Alleys of
London stand ſtill, and re-
present themſelvſ always in
the ſame fashion to our eys,
and it is enough to know
them perfectly only to tra-
vel them often through:
whereas it is ſo intricate a
work, to take a right Pro-
spect of the Manners of Men,
the Humours of Nations, and

E the

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
the Secrets of Princes Coun-
sails, that it is perhaps the
most difficult employment of
human Wit.*

Tis true indeed, he in-
deavors to fetch a justifica-
tion of his Insolence, from
the English themselves: But
the Apology, which he makes,
rather aggravates his offence.

P. 10. He says, he is confident, that
if he writ in our own language
he should not displease us. And
he gives this reason for it.

P. 11. that the English have often
caus'd their Character to be
publisb'd: and that they have
done this

this peculiar good Quality, that they love to have themselves handled plainly, and ill-spoken of. This he professes to mention in our praise. And if this be his Courtesie, I now find, that the Passengers with him in the Waggon had reason, when (as he complains) they interpreted his very Civilities for affronts. But P. 21.
Sir, what is this that he here says? has the English Nation ever caus'd its Character to be Printed? he speaks of it, as if it had been a thing done by Act of Parliament,

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
liament, and by the Autho-
rity of the whole State.* 'Tis
true, Sir, there was (as you
may perhaps remember) a
small *Pamphlet*, that came
out with the *Title of the Cha-
racter of England*, about six
years ago. But that was
pretended to be a *Translati-
on out of French*. Or let
us suppose that it was an
Englishman that writ it
under that disguise: you
has *Monsieur de Sorbiere* from
thence any ground to say
that the whole English Nation
has often printed its own *Cha-
racter*.

raeter? I will give him one instance to shew how absurdly he did thus conclude, from one particular man, to a whole Country. Monsieur de Sorbiere, in his Book of Letters, has inserted (as he calls it) a Sceptical Discourse concerning the City of Paris: wherein he uses the Metropolis of all France, almost as injuriously, as he does the English in this Relation; with language as foul, as the Dirt of Paris itself. Now then, because Monsieur de Sorbiere, a pri-

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
late inhabitant of Paris, has
presum'd to slander it, in
that manner; does it become
me to affirm that the whole
City of Paris has written a
scandalous Libel on it self?*

But perhaps by this In-
stance which I have here
mention'd, Monsieur de Sor-
bier will raise an Argu-
ment, that shall be very
much to his own advantage.
For now he will be ready to
say, that the English have
no great reason to take his
Affronts unkindly, seeing
he has been already so free
of

of his Corrections, and Re-
proofs, as not to spare his
own Countrymen themselves.
I accept of his *Apology*. ^{of} This
Pietatis plena Defensio: ^{of} This
an excellent good Natur'd
Defence, for his rayling ag-
ainst *Strangers*, that he
has done the same before,
against his own *Fellow-Citi-
zens*. <sup>and of old said with-
out</sup> But to return to the *En-
glish-Book*, which he pro-
poses as his Pattern. Seeing
we have but one Libel in our
Language, against a wble
Country in general; let us
but

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
permit the Historiographer
Royal, to imitate it. Yet I
cannot imagine how n^o he
came to understand that
Book alone, when he pro-
fesses that he was utterly
ignorant of the English.
P. 20. Tongue in all things else it
seems that reviling; and Sa-
tyr is so natural to his mind,
that he is able to conceive
the sense of it; though the
Language in which it is writ-
ten, be never so much un-
known to him. However,
if we compare the times of
their publication, we shall
perceive A E find*

find that there is a great distinction between the crimes of the *English*, and the *French Satyrift*. The first of these was publish'd during the Tyranny of the late Usurpers: and though it was very severe on the *English* in many passages, yet the greatest part was spoken with a good intention, in reproof of the miserable distractions of that Age, and the many ill-Customs which a long Civil-War had introduc'd. I beg of you now, Sir, to consider, by what an Example

Hiw he

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
he clears himself. Because
there was one Satyr writ-
ten on our Nation, in a time
of Licentiousness, and Con-
fusion; he will second it
now with a Worse, when we
are settled in Peace, and Pro-
sperity. Seeing he thinks
this Plea sufficient, for what
he says against the Manners
of the English, that an Eng-
lish-man did the same under
Oliver, or Richard: I would
have him also defend him-
self in all his Slanders on our
Court, and the King's Mini-
stiers, with an argument that
will

will resemble the other. For why may he not assert, that it is lawful for him now to use such Liberty ; because *Milton* was allow'd by the *Rump*, to write a Villainous Book against the late King of Blessed Memory ?

This weak excuse therefore, Sir, that he makes for his Barbarous way of handling Us, shall not serve his turn. He is so far from having receiv'd encouragement from the *English* : that I can shew him several Volumes of the Voyages of some

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
some of our Countrymen,
into Russia, Persia, Egypt, the
Turkish-Empire, the East-In-
dies, and America, which
have given a more advanta-
geous account of those Infি-
dels, and Barbarians, than
he has done of one of the
most polite Countries in
Europe. The English have
describ'd, and illustrated,
all parts of the Earth by
their Writings: many they
have discover'd; they have
visited all. And I dare assure
him, that they have been al-
ways most tender of the Re-
putation*

putation of forein States, which they have gone to visit, as they have been most merciful in sparing the *Natives* blood, in those Countries which they discover'd.

Let us now behold how *Monsieur de Sorbiere* has conform'd himself to this generous *English Spirit*. I will give you in a short view some of the good terms that he has bestow'd on our Nation in General. He says, *That we have skimm'd all the vices, and disdain'd the virtues*, P. 12. *and* *tues*

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
vices of other Countries: that*

P.112. *we contemn all the rest of the
World: that we esteem all
mankind besides miserable:*

P.112. *that we scorn to look on them,
or to speak to them, when they
travel bither: that we fre-*

P.153. *quently menace, and insult over
our neighbours: that it is very*

P.113. *hard to know, how to get our
good will: that we have a*

P.12. *strong union amongst our selves
against strangers: that we re-*

P.13. *gard the prosperity of others
with an evil eye: that we have*

P.11. *a natural inclination to idle-
ness, to presumption, to a cer-*

tain extravagance of thoughts,
which is to be found in our most
excellent writings: that almost
all the English are guilty of P. 11.
these faults, because they pro-
ceed from our Soyl: that our
humour is too free, and arro- P. 12.
gant: that we are voracious, P. 151.
and luxurious: that we submit
to any, that will fill our Bel- P. 122,
lies, let us rayl, and will not
disturb our slothfulness: that P. 19.
we are scoffers, and malicious
speakers: that we are very ir- P. 112.
regular, and suspicious: that we P. 113.
are fill'd with dark thoughts:
that we are fierce, and capri-
cious

- Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
cions: that we have a melan-
choly peculiar to us: that if
we once get necessities to sup-
port life, our idleness makes us
careless of any more: that there
are every where Doe-littles,
proud, and Fanatick Persons
to be met with: that there is
nothing so crouching as an En-
glish man, if once you can find
the means to make him afraid:
that if you take away their In-
solence, you take away their
courage, and that they make
but one leap, from the greatest
buffe of pride into the basest
cowardize.

He has wearied me, Sir,
and I can follow him no fur-
ther, in heaping up such
ignominious Trash. He ac-
knowledges, that *England* is
better known than any other
part of the World, by the Bri-
tannia of the most Learned Mr.
Cambden. And it is happy
for us that it is so. For, if
Foreigners should have no-
thing else to direct them
concerning us, but this fair
Idea which he has here gi-
ven; I suppose they would
travel hither with the same
caution, as we do into Green-
land.

F land,

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Land, go fish for Whales: they
would only touch upon our
shores, and stand upon their
guard at every noyse, least
the wilde Beasts should sur-
prise them unawares. I in-
treat you to recall into your
mind the description, which
Cæsar makes of the salvage
manners of this *island*, at
the time that he conquered
Gaul and *Britain* together,
you will find that *Monsieur
de Sorbier* is less milde in
his expretions on us now,
then that great Conqueror
was on the untaught and o-

original Inhabitants, that liv'd
in Forrests, and painted
their Bodies, to make them
appeare more dreadfull.
Whatever reflections had
been made on our Imper-
fections, we might perhaps
have patiently receiv'd them
from the hands of the Ma-
ster of Rome, that had civi-
liz'd us; and it may be too
from one of his Trumpeters,
so he had been a Roman:
But we cannot from a Scholer
Master of Orange, from a
Trumpeter of Little Britain,
from a man that came hither

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
to pick up Presents of
Gloves, and Ribbands; and
(as he himself confesses) to
P. 161, collect some certain debts, that
162. were here owing to his Friends.*

When I first, Sir, beheld
all this good language which
he has given us, I did pre-
sently cast about and exa-
mine what I might be the
cause of his Rage. And at
last I had from one of his
acquaintance intimation e-
nough to guess, why he was
pleased to be thus incens'd.
When he return'd from his
second visit to the King, this

Gentleman ask'd him, How his *Majesty* had receiv'd him? he reply'd, *Kindly* enough: but, he expected, he would have presented him with some *Medall*. This, Sir, was the Provocation, And this was the occasion, that made him lay about him so terribly. What Indignation can be great enough against such baseness? Are these *Writers of Letters*, and *Flatteries*, and *Romances*, such dangerous men? Must the *King of England* deal with them, as some petty *Bordring Princes* eroted

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
are forc'd to do with the
Turk? Must he buy them
off, and pay tribute to them,
lest they should invade his
Territories at their plea-
sure? Monsieur de Sorbiere,
Sir, is a man of ripe Age, he
pretends to have been fami-
liar with Embassadors, Gene-
rals, and Nuntio's: he lays
claim to the title of Philoso-
pher, and to the most gene-
rous Sect of Philosophy, he
tells us he is a Sceptick. But
did he ever yet hear of an
Example of a Philosopher,
that preferr'd a petty gift,
before

before the sweetnes, and the obligation of so Great and so *Magnanimous* a Prince's conuersation ? It has indeed been told us, that some Philosophers of old have transgress'd on the contrary, and have refused the Bounty of *Monarchs*, that they might preserve the liberty of their minds : But in all *History* there can be no such instance shewn, that a man should forfeit his Truth, and Honesty, for the want of a *Medall*, unless it be of him, that first renounc'd his Consci-

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
ence, and chang'd his Reli-
gion, to obtain a Pension.*

In answer to these calum-
nies with which he has af-
perfed us, I will onely in
plain and simple terms, say
as much as may confute his
reproaches : But I will not
set upon a long, and a so-
lenin *Panegyrick* of our Na-
tion : For it is not my bu-
siness here to paint, but only
to wash.

The first Slander, of which
I shall take notice, he pre-
tends to be a Proverbial-
Speech ; that we have de-

spis'd all the good, and skimm'd all the bad, of other people. As for the first part of it, whether we have scorn'd all the good qualities of others, I am content to have try'd by his own words. He graunts, that in very many things, we imitate the magnanimous Spirit of the Antient Romans. And if we have been so careful to learn Vertue, from an Empire that was long ago at an end: how could he imagine, that we contemn all that is commendable in

P. 12.

the

: Observations on Mr. Sorbier's

the Living ? I thank him
that he has resembl'd us to
the greatest men of all An-
tiquity : But in the In-
stance which he alledges ,
he does well express what
Sence he has of greatness of
Mind, and honorable Acti-
ons : For, He reckons the
P.12. Fights of their Gladiators to
be one Chief Sign of their Vir-
tue : Which was a cruelty ,
that all the Civil World do
blame them for besides. I
will confess Monsieur de Sor-
bier to be a better Master
of Defence then any that he
ever saw

Saw at the Red-Bull, as if after P. 172.

this he can prove to Me, that
he is a fit Man to distin-
guish, what is Insolence,
and what is Courage, in the
English; Seeing he counts
it to have been a great piece
of Bravery in the *Romans*,
that they were delighted in
beholding their Slaves, and
their Captives, murder one
another. And whereas he
says, that we are infected with
Outlandish-Vices; I cannot
forbear telling him, that if
this should be graunted
partly true, that we are in
some

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
some measure degenerated
from the Native Vertue, and
Innocence of our Ancestors,
in Edward the Third, and
Henry the Fifth's time ; yet
it is easie to tell, from what
Coast the Infection was
transported hither ; and we
may say with Horace in a
like case, though in respect
of worse Arts than he inten-
ded ;*

*Græcia capta ferum victo-
rem cepit, & Artes hor-
borum Intulit Agresti Latio.*

He

He next objects to us, That
we have a strong union amongst
our selves against Strangers ,
and that it is almost impossible
to get our good will. This ,
Sir, is so far from being true,
that (you know) it may
well be computed, that we
have more Foreigners in
Norwich, Canterbury, and
London, who are permitted
to Trade, and to enjoy the
Privilege of *Natives* , then
there are constantly resid-
ing in any Twenty Cities of
Italy, Spain, or France. as
He upbraids us with fre-
quent

Pref.

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
quent menacing, and insulting
over our Neighbours. This he
speaks with particular re-
spect to the *Hollanders Trade*.
But who made him Judge
of the rights of Peace, and
War? He acknowleg'd be-
fore, that all other affairs,
except only those of the Sciences,
and Learned men, lie out of his
way. Why does he then
thrust in to be Arbitrator of
the differences between the
Dutch, and Us? to call those
Menaces and Affronts, which
an Assembly that represents a
mighty Nation, has already
styl'd

Styl'd demands of just satisfaction ? and which the great Sovereign of the Seas will shortly make appear to be a Vindication of the Law of Nations ? But if Monsieur de Sorbiere believess , that our present contentions with the Low-Countrymen , are only rude Affronts, and not just Grievances ; I am certain he was once of another mind, when he writ his Letter to Monsieur de Courcelles in the year 1652. Wherein he extols the Rumps Victories over them , and presages

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
a glorious Empire to those
Tyrants, from their absolute
subduing them.*

He says, that we will not
vouchsafe to speak to those that
travel hither; and yet he calls
us presumptuous, Raileurs, Ar-
rogant, and Evil-Speakers.
But to this it shall suffice me
to reply, that seeing the same
man condemns our Silence,
and our Speech, it is a good
Argument, that we are mo-
derate, and unblamable in
Both.

He declares, that We re-
gard the Prosperity of others
with

Voyage into England. to
with Jealousie; whereas, there
is not one of our Neighbors,
to whom our Assistance
could reach, but we have
ayded in their Calamities.
The United Provinces, notwithstanding
their present
apprehensions of us, will
still confess that their Com-
mon-Wealth was founded
upon English Valour. to The
Great Henry of France was
establish'd in his Throne by
Queen Elizabeth's succours.
And while I am writing this,
the Portuguez behold one of
the surest Raumparts of their
wel G Liberty,

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Liberty, to be the Breasts
of English Soldiers.

He proceeds to affirm, that we will serve any man, that will feed us, suffer us to rail, and be idle. But to give him a full Testimony, how careful the English are of their own Liberty, it is lie. nough to say, that they endeavor, more than most other Nations, to preserve inviolable the freedom of mankind in general; For they never make Slaves of their Prisoners of War in any part of Europe, which perhaps few

few other Nations have for-
born. And that the world
has a better opinion of us, he
may be convinc'd by this,
that the Natives of all Tra-
ding-Countries, have still
maintain'd a peculiar re-
spect for the *English* integri-
ty; and that wherever the
Bounds of our Empire have
reach'd in antient Times,
there still remains on the
minds of the people, a Re-
membrance of the easiness
of the *English* Government.
If all this will not satisfy
him, that the *English* are not

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
of a more Servile Dispositi-
on than other Countries; I
will put him upon an Em-
ployment, which may well
become his Abilities: Let
him make a computation of
the Footmen, Grooms of
Chambers, and Cooks in
Europe, and then let him tell
me, whether he finds those of
the English Nation to be the
most Numerous.*

He asserts, that the English
are suspicious, dark, ir-
regular, capricious, and that
they have a Melancholly pecu-
liar to themselves. In this,
methinks

methinks his small Philoso-
phy should have instructed
him better, that such dismal
qualities are not the neces-
sary Companions of the
Complexion of Angels, which
he allows them. But he that
went dauncing from Paris to
Calais, and at Calais, as soon
as he alighted out of the
Chasse Marin, could not ab-
stain from going to a Pup-
pet-Play (for that I suppose
he means, when he says, *he*
saw a Comedy there) is not a
fit man to Censure what is
the difference, between what

Observations on Mr. Sporier's
is Fantastical, and good
Humour, between the Seri-
ous, and the Sullen. How-
ever he has made some Re-
compence to us for this dis-
grace. He has describ'd
the Vigorous, and the
Sprightly Humour of the
French, in such a manner,
as makes it no very desirable
Accomplishment. For he
tells us, that where ever they
come, they make such a Noyse,
as to draw all the Children, and
the Dogs in the Town after them.
And I suppose, it is such a
kind of Bruit as this, that
ai 8 ③ Monsieur

Monsieur de Sorbiere says, he has made in all places, whence he arrived,

He often says, that we are all Idle, Sluggish, and Doe-littles. Upon this he insists so frequently, that I conceive his French Readers, that never saw *England*, will be apt to believe that he found it such a Country as *Lubberland*: that he caught all the Inhabitants stretch'd out on their Backs, and sleeping under Trees. But whence could he gather this conception of our stupidi-

G 4 . ty?

lno

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
ty?* The places that he vi-
sited, were onely those on
the Road to *Oxford*, and *Lon-
don*, and some few other No-
blemen's houses besides. I
hope he did not conclude
our Nation to be so lazy,
from the quiet of the streets,
and the retirement of the
Colleges in the *University*:
yet when I remember what
judgement he made on our
Rudeness at *Dover*, and from
whence he took his conje-
cture, I am likewise inclin'd
to think that he has discreti-
on enough to determine up-

on the English Sluggishness,
from the private way of liv-
ing of our Scholars. It must
be so, For every where else
he beheld many marks of
diligence. In his Journey
to London, he confesses, *P. 13.*
was admirable to see, what an
infinite number of Seamen, and
Shipwrights, were at work on
the Banks of the Thames. In
London it self he reports, that
there are more Shops, and bet- *P. 40.*
ter beautified, than in any City
in the World. He found every
where in England, men busie
about Natural Experiments,
sd from

Observations on Mr. Sarbier's
from whose labours he is confi-
dent, mankind may expect pro-
digious Inventions? And are
all these the signs of an over-
grown slothfulness? But be-
sides these, Sir, he never
saw any of the cheif Seats of
the English Industry, he be-
held not the Cole-pits of New
Castle, the Clothworks of the
West, and the North, the Lead
Mines of Derby, the Orchards
of Hereford, the Plough-lands
of Devon, the New Rivers of
the Fens, the Tinn Mines of
Cornwall. These, and many
more, he should have view'd:
*he
should*

he should thence have passed into our Western Colonies: he should have considered the Sugar works of the Barbadoes, the Tobacco Plantations of Virginia, the Silk Trade that is begun there, and the Vast Mole, which goes on at Tangier, that pittifull place (as he terms it:) after all these surveys he might have been a fitter Judge of the English labours. This exactness of Information might have been expected from an Historiographer Royal. But he has been as carefull in this, as

P. 175.

12.9

P. 10.

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
 as in most of the rest of his
 Intelligence. For as soon as
 ever he sets his foot on the
English shore, he strait posi-
tively condemns all the whole
Nation of laziness, from the
first Posthorse that be saw
gallop.

251.9
 His last disgrace is the En-
 glish cowardize. And the oc-
 casion from whence he takes
 this Observation is very re-
 markable, He saw an Oxford
 Scholar affronted by a French-
 man that had been seven years
 the Protectors soldier : And
 thence i He passes sentence on
 the

the baseness of our Nation.
What, Sir, will the Dutch and
the Spaniards think of this?
The one, when they remem-
ber the Battels of *Portland*,
and the *North forland*; and
the other, when they call to
mind *Tenariff*, and the sandy
bills of Dunkirk? Will they
not take it very ill at his
hands, that he should reckon
all those for *Cowards*, whom
Cromwells Soldiers had de-
feated? But if our late civil
Warrs have not given an un-
confutable evidence of the
English valour: if the mag-
nanimous

*Observations on Mr. Soubrier's
nanimous Deaths of so many
Martyrs for the Royall
Cause do not prove it: If
Eighty Eight: if the Im-
mortal Sir Richard Greenvill,
if our Conquests of Ireland,
and Scotland be forgotten:
if the joyned Testimony of al-
most all the Historical Wri-
ters for these last six hun-
dred ybars be of no ac-
count: yet (to say no more)
I could never have believ'd
that any French Historiogra-
pher would have given it un-
der his hand, i that the En-
glish are Cowards & Vilemen
And*

And now, Sir , having laid all these Ignominies together, would you not have guess'd that he would never have dar'd, to pronounce so boldly upon us ; unless he had convers'd all his Life time with us ; unless he had thoroughly studied our Temper, and deeply pierc'd by a long search into the Composition of our Nature ? But when I find, that as soon as ever he was call'd Monsieur by the Children of Dover , he strain makes Conclusion of our general Inbositality : and of
from

our

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
out Insolence from the next Car-
rier that he employ'd: and of
our Abusiveness, from a silly
Zealander, that was his fel-
low-Traveller: and of our
want of Courage, from a piti-
ful Fight between a naked schol-
lar, and an armed French
Soldier, at Beaconsfield. This
puts me in mind of the
Judgment, which one of the
greatest men that ever liv'd,
did passe on the *Antient*
Gaules. It was the expe-
rience of Cæsar himself, of
their trifling, and change-
able Humour; that *in their*
most

Voyage into England. do.
most solemn Councils, they de-
termin'd on the weightiest Af-
fairs, upon the Authority of
any slender Report of the next
wandering Redlar. This I
hope I may repeat, without
offending the present French
Nation. For I do not say,
(as Monsieur de Sorbiev of-
hs) That it came from the
Nature of their Soyl, and that
therefore it must needs de-
scend on all that are born
on the same Earth. But I
only affirm that I know a
certain French Trumper,
that has made good this
an illibid

98
*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Observation of Cæsars.*

This, Sir, being the Form, which he has fanci'd in his Brain of the wild Manners of the English, it is easie to gheſſ, what thoughts he has of their Religion. And the Truth is, having represented us, as such Monsters, in our Civil Customs, and Behaviour, he could do no other, than paint us out to be as bad as Infidels, in ~~scum~~ Spiritual Condition. For whosoever are Barbarous in their Lives, can never be good Christians.

Christians in their Hearts. It is the peculiar glory of the True Christianity, that it does not onely Save, but Civilize, its Reall Professours.

We shall therefore find, that his reproaches are proportionable concerning our Religion. And by the Irreverence of the Language which he uses towards it, you may perceive, that he did not only learn from the Trooper that was his Companion to Oxford, that the English are Insolent, and Co

H 2 wards:

P.21.

P.45.

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Wards :* But that he also fur-
nish'd him with this Intelli-
gence of *Church*. For this
account, which he has here
set down, could have been
given by no man living so
properly, as by one that had
been a Soldier in Cromwell's
Army. To pass by the friend-
ly names of *Schismaticks*, and
Hereticks, which he as freely
bestows upon us as if they
were our National Titles :
he has ventur'd to say, that
*We separated from the Church
of Rome for shameful causes,
that are known to all the
World :*

World : that the people has an P.43.
universal Aversion from the
Religion establish'd by Law :
that there is a probability, that
all our Sects may shortly unite P.44.
to destroy it : that our solemn
Publique Prayers are only a P.43.
Morsel of a Liturgy : that P.44.
the King did the most hazard-
ous thing he could undertake,
when he restor'd Episcopacy :
that our Ecclesiastical Govern- P.44.
ment is nothing else, but the
Shadow, and the Corruption
of the true Hierarchy : that P.45.
the Introduction of our Church-
Service into Scotland, was the

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
cause of the shedding of so much
Blood in the three Nations :*

P. 53. that our chief Clergy men, who
have Pluralities of Benefices, make their Grooms their Cu-
rators : that our Bishops do

P. 52. horribly abuse their Jurisdiction, in their Excommunicati-
ons, and Impositions : that

P. 53. they are so haughty, that none
of the Inferior Priests dare
speak to them : that they rob

P. 62, the Church, by letting its Lea-

63. ses for thirty years ; getting all
the Money into their own
Packets, and leaving only a
small Revenue to their Suc-
cessours :

cessours: that *England is a Country, where no man is afraid of committing Simony.* This, Sir, is his Judgment of our *Church.* And you may be pleas'd to observe, that this Catalogue of Slanders is equally made up of those, which the most furious of the *Romanists* on the one side, and the most *Fanatick* amongst the *Non-conformists* on the other, are wont to Revile us withall: So that in repeating them, he does at once act both the Parts, which he had before

H 4 plaid

gnol

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
plaide in the World at sever-
al times, that of a violent
Calvinist, and a Jesuitical
Papist.*

Ahd first, it is false that
our English Reformation be-
gan upon a shamefull occasion,
or from the extravagance of
a private passion. I know
he has the famous story of
King Henry's Divorce to op-
pose against whae I say. But
I am not startled at that, no
more then at the Fable of
our Bishops Consecration at
the Naggs-head Tavern; or,
of the Kentish-mens having
biskit + H long

long Tayls for the murder
of *Thomas Becket*. Such fri-
volous Arguments as these
might have served well e-
nough in the Mouths of the
Moncks two hundred years
agoe: But they will not pass
so easily in a Philosophical,
and Inquisitive Age. In
breif therefore, Sir, it is evi-
dent that *King Henry the*
Eighth did never intend to
proceed to a much greater
distance from the *Roman See*,
then the *Gallican Church*
maintains at this day. There
is no man of our *Church*, that
looks
yd

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
looks upon his breach with
the Pope, to have been a Re-
formation. We onely esteem
it to be of the nature of
those Quarrels, which many
Princes in the most Catholick
Countries, have manag'd a-
gainst the *Holy Chair*. The
Reformation to which we
stand is of a latter date. The
Primitive Reformers amongst
us, beheld the Reason of
men tamely subjected to one
mans Command, and the
Sovereign Powers of all
Christendom still expos'd to
be check'd, and destroy'd
by
exfol

by the Resolutions of his private Will. Upon this they arose to perform two of the greatest Works in the World, at once to deliver the minds of Christians from Tyranny, and the Dignity of the Throne from Spiritual Bondage. Whatever was the accidental, this was the Real Cause of our first *Reformation*, and of their separation from us, not ours from them. And this was an event which must needs have come to pass near the time in which it did, though

King

P.45. King Henry had never forsaken his Wife. Let him therefore know, that our Doctrine (as much spoyl'd as it is, in his opinion) was establish'd by Christ and his Apostles: and that the Ceremonies of our Worship, were not set up by faction, or by popular Fury, but by the deliberate Counsels of Wisemen, and by the authority of that power, which bears the immediate Image of God. This, Sir, I have said in Vindication of our Church, not so much to satisfie this idle Dreamer

Dreamer upon Parnassus, as
out of the love which I bear
to many well-meaning *Ca-
taliques* amongst us, who
have this Argument some-
times in their mouths, of
whom I know very many,
whose wishes for the happi-
ness of their Country, and
for its freedom from forein
Usurpations, are as honour-
able as any *Englishmens* liv-
ing. As for *Monsieur de Sor-
bier's* part, it had been a suf-
ficient Reply to him, that I
can name a man, who has
indeed separated from the Re-
ligion

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
ligion wherein he was born, for
a shamefull cause which is
known to all the World.

He declares that the people
of England have an universal
aversion from the establish'd
Worship. But here I cannot
say that of him for which he
commends Doctor Wallis, that
P. 10c. He is one of the best Account-
ants in the World. This po-
sitive Computation he ne-
ver was in any capacity to
make, he never saw any of
the middle, or the remoter
parts of our Nation, where
Non-conformity is but very
spare

sparingly spread. He never convers'd with the vast Body of Gentry, and Yeomanry that live Country lives, who are generally uninformed. It is *London* alone on which he must rely for this calculation. And yet even in this too, I dare openly assure him, that the far greater number is for the Rights of the Church, than against them. But I advise Monsieur de Sorbiere, that before he thinks himself able to make an exact judgment of the Number of our Religious

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
gious Sects,* he would first
correct all his errors in
Arithmetick, which are to
be found in this Book, about
the most obvious things, in
reckoning of which, it was
enough to have onely had
the understanding of the
least childe that he never
taught. I will onely produce
one in this place. Have we
not reason to rely upon his
opinion of the difference of
the parties in the whole
Kingdom; when in the least
number that can be, he has
mistaken half? For, he says,
that

that the double-bottom'd Vessel
has two Masts in the Front; &
when every Sculler on the
Thames knows it has but
One. even if not ~~but~~ ⁱⁿ England.
He affirms, that the Gov-
ernment of our Bishops is no
thing else, but the ~~standard~~,
and the corruption of a True
Hierarchy. And he gives this
excellent Reason for it, ~~be-~~
~~cause~~ ^{P.44.} the Spiritual sub-
mits to the Temporal. This ver-
y Argument I will touch up-
on himself. It is therefore
the True, & the sound, & the
Apostolical Episcopacy; ~~be-~~
~~cause~~ I cause

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
cause it does yield to the Tem-
poral Power, which else could
be nothing but a shadow. It
is the glory of the Church of
England, that it never re-
fisted Authority, nor in-
gag'd in Rebellion : which
is a praise, that makes much
to its advantage, in the
minds of all those, who have
read of the dismal effects of
the Scotch Covenant, and the
holy League.*

*He says, that our King did
put himself on the most dange-
rous Enterprise that could be
attempted, when he restored
Episcopacy.*

Episcopacy. And yet he confesses that our other Sects are

P. 58.

inconsistent with any Government but a Common-wealth;

What dreadfull danger could be imagin'd in a Monarch destroying that, which

must needs fall of it self in a Monarchy?

But to shew how much he was mistaken,

It is evident, that upon his

Majesty's most glorious Return, the Church soon recover'd all its rights of Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, of fitting in Parliament, and even

all its Lands, which had

I 2 been
eirly

.82.1

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
been long held by Armed
Usurpers, without any o-
ther Opposition, than what
was made by General Vermot,
and his forty men: who it
seems did run the greatest
hazard of the two. ~~and when~~
He declares that there is
so great a distance between our
Bishops, and our inferior Cler-
gy, that these dare not speak
to, ~~nor stand cover'd before,~~
them. This, Sir, you and I
can prove to be a manifest
Untruth, by several Instan-
ces. But however, what
course we take to please
need

this graye Censurer of our
Civility? He here dislikes the
respects, that we shew to our
cheif Churchmen: and in any
other place, He condemns the
familiar behaviour of our com-
mon Soldiers towards their Of-
ficers. He abuses the Clergy-
men for standing bare to those
Reverend and Aged Persons;
and the Red-Coats for keeping P.122.
on their Hatts in the presence
of their Captains. How suffi-
cient a Judge is he of good
manners, that would bring
the rude Customs of a Camp
into the Church, and the Pub-

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Ailio's of Observance, and
Courtship, into an Army.*

But he accuses us of a greater Crime. It is but just that there should be so great a distance, if our Clergymen that have Pluralities, make their Grooms supply their Cures.

In this part of his Character he certainly, Sir, mistook the Country, and intended this for some other Kingdom in Europe, where he had also miss'd of a Medall. It is a sign that he is as little acquainted with his own Church, as he is with ours: or

or else he would never have
objected to us our Pluralities,
which are infinitely fewer,
and more confin'd amongst
us: he would never have
ventur'd to upbraid us with
the Ignorance of our Parish
Priests, lest we should have
provok'd the whole Church
of Rome to a comparison. In
breif, Sir, our Slaves do not
serve at our Altars: and I
will also add, that our Cheif
Spiritual Dignities are not in-
tayl'd upon Families, nor
possess'd by Children. In all
the Parishes of England; I

I 4 dare

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
dare challenge w^t not onely
him that is a Stranger, But
the most bitter Enemies to
pure Discipline, to shew
me Twenty Pulpits; that are
fill'd with men, who have
not spent their Youth in
Studies to prepare them,
and who have not the Au-
thority of Holy Orders.*

*That He has presum'd to
call our Publique Solemn
Prayers, only a Morsel, or a
Scrap of a Liturgy; I do
not much wonder. For he
that has long made his own
Religion his Cook, has one of
our*

121

Voyage into England. 10
our Poets expresses it,) may
well be thought irreligious
enough; to take a *Metaphor*
for ours from a Kitching.
But besides this, he asserts,
that the *Introduction of the En-*
glish Liturgy into Scotland,
was the cause of the shedding of
all the Blood in the three Na-
tions. This Speech might
have well fitted the mouth of
Bradshaw, or the Pen of
Ireton. For it lays all the
guilt of so much Slaughter,
on the most Innocent, and
most merciful Prince that
ever wore a Crown; by
whose

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
whose special care, an Uni-
formity of Worship was at-
tempted in that Kingdome.
But to give him better light,
and to let him see, that there
were other Causes of our
Miseries, in one of these
three Countries at least, I
would fain have him ask
this Question of the Pope's
Legat that was in Ireland,
whether the horrible Irish
Massacre was committed for
no other reason, but only out
of a tender Brotherly sense
of the Yoke which was laid
by the Common-Prayer, on
the*

the Scotchmen's Consciences!

He tells us, that it is an ordinary thing with our Bishops, to exercise their Ecclesiastical Censures upon frivolous accounts. But methinks he might have remembred, that it was not probable, they should seek out any trifling occasions of excommunication, when, by his own confession, they have so many weighty Provocations: if that be true, that the whole Nation neglects their Discipline. But, Sir, you know it is apparent to all indifferent

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
gent Men, that the Bishops
have been most remarkably
moderate in their Visitations:
and that the Punishments,
which have been inflicted
on the Obstinate, have for
the most part proceeded
from the *Temporal Sword*,
and not the *Spiritual*. But,
because he here quarrels at
the Absoluteness of our Bi-
shop's power, I leave him to
be answer'd by the whole
Clergy of the Church of Rome,
who ought to be alarm'd by
this. For if ours shall be reput-
ed so Tyrannical, what will
they

they be esteem'd, whose Jurisdiction is so much larger?

He goes on to defame our Bishops. He says, they have embezled the Church Lands, to make their own Families Rich. This, Sir, is an Objection, which though it was at first manag'd against them with great Clamour, by the common Enemies of the King, and the Church: yet now upon a calmer consideration of things, it has universally lost its credit, even in those places where he says, the English take Tobacco

bacco half the day together ; from whence he acknowledges , that he had a good part of his Relations . The first mur- murs against them were rais'd , because they receiv'd altogether , some part of that which was their due , for twenty years before . But the Envy of that was quickly scatter'd , when it was mani- fest how many publick , and Generous works they have promoted . Besides the first Fruits , and Tenth s , and above all the Subsidies , which have sweep'd away

a good part of their gains ,
they have compounded with
a very great Number of the
Purchasers ; they have in-
creas'd the Vicaredges ⁱⁿ their
Gift to Fourscore
Pounds a year : they have
indow'd Alms-Houses, and
Colleges , they have built
Chappels, they have re-
paired the Episcopal Pala-
ces, and Cathedrals , which
were generally gone to Ru-
ine ; they have redeemid
at once all the English, that
were Slaves at Algiers, and
that too I dare assure him ,

without

to

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
without any intent to make Cus-
toms of them. or any other said words
and The Account which he
gives of their letting Leases is
most ridiculous. There
is no man amongst them,
that lets a Lease for thirty years.
The Reserved Rent is that
which was always the stand-
ing Revenue of the Church.
Nor ought this Custom to
be objected against the
Church of England. It is
the same course which is tai-
ken in France, and most o-
ther parts of Christendom.
Nay, to go farther, the letting
of

of *Church Leases* is a business, whose Regulation was brought about since the time, that the *Church of Rome* divided from us. Before Queen Elizabeth's reign, the *Churchmen* had a power of Farming out their Lands, not only for *Thirty*, but for *Ninety Nine* years. It was Shee, that first confin'd the Term to *One and Twenty*; and so it still remains. He ought not therefore to reckon this practice as our disgrace: when the good order, that is now us'd about it, is the peculiar

b'nisj

K culiar

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
culiar honour, that belongs
to the English Reformation.*

But to Conclude, if no
Man fears Simony in England,
then there is no man that is
affrighted with punishment.
For our Laws are as strict
against it, and as severely
executed, as any where else.
However, if it were true,
(which is far from being
so,) that we Simoniacally
imploy the Church estate to
Secular uses; yet this sounds
very ill from that *Layman's
Pen*, who, when he writ
this *Voyage*, was main-
tain'd

tain'd out of the Ecclesiasti-
cal Recov'rey This, Sir, was
Monsieur de Sartiere's Case.
And the first Office of a
Churchman that ever he per-
form'd h̄t was in this Book,
where He devoutly prays to P. 99:
God, to make Mr. Hobbs a
Roman Catholique. Which
if his prayers can obtain
from Heaven, he deserves
not only to be made a Priest,
or Bishop, but even a Saint
too? For this will be a far
greater Miracle, than any of
those for which many have
lived Canoniz'd and woul-
d be if he were

And now, Sir, can you require any greater signs of Monsieur de Sorbier's Sincerity in his Religion? He has accus'd of Simony, the most Incorrupt: of Pride, the Humblest: of Rapacity, the most Innocent: of Ignorance, the most Learned: of false Doctrine, the most Primitive; of ill Discipline, the most Decent Church under Heaven. And when nothing else could be said, he even upbraids it with its Submission and Obedience, To shew, (that he is as ill a Disciple

sciple of Mr. Hobbes's, whom he pretends to admire, as he is of the Apostles.) Notwithstanding all which impudent Disgraces, there remains this one comfort to the *Church of England*, that the same man, who now vilifies Her so basely, had once as mean thoughts of the God-Head of Her blessed Founder Himself.

But it is easier to conjecture at the Cause of this his harsh Usage of our *Church*. He had but lately apostatiz'd from the Reformed Religion

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Ligion in France; he was but
just enter'd into the Romish
Communion.* And he sus-
pected, that there might
be some doubts still remain-
ing on mens minds, of the
Reality of his Conversion,
which might turn to the
prejudice not only of his
Spiritual, but of his Tem-
poral Estate: he had given
himself out for a great Phi-
losopher; and he understood
well enough, that few Phi-
losophers are thought to al-
ter their minds, that have
once been Protestants. He

was therefore resolv'd to give an Unquestionable proof of his Establishment in the Faith, by reviling the *Church of England*. And in performing this, I confess, Sir, he has Counte- feited the Zealot very well: he has prosecuted Us, with all the Violence, and Bi- gottry, which commonly accompanies new Converts. But yet I believe this will hardly do his business. Even in this very Book, he gives Evidence enough, that *Cat- olinism*, and *Heresie*, are not

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
wholly rooted out of his
Heart. He grossly abuses
the most devoted Children
of the Church of Rome, the
English Roman Catholiques.*

P.64.

*He complains of them, that
they have no mind to disturb
the Peace of their Country to-
wards the restoration of their
Religion : which is indeed
spoken to their Honour,
though he intends it to their
Shame. He says, that they*

P.64.

*are not so zealous in their Way,
as forein Papists, the quite
contrary to which is true :*

P.64.

*he makes, as if they never
yldw*

saw the True Mass perform'd: he affirms, that they are all born in Servitude, and debases so many Antient, Rich, and Honourable Families, to the condition, and the minds, of Slaves. In all these Speeches, he does not express any certain mark of a True Proselyte. But above all, he has set down such a determination of his Faith, that if he had made it in *Italy*, or *Spain*, he had undoubtedly fallen into the *Inquisition*. He boldly pronounces, that *Transubstan-*
tiation,

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
relation, Purgatory, the Me-
rit of Works, Invocation of
Saints, the Supremacy of the
Bishop of Rome, the authori-
ty of Councils, and the Infa-
libility of the Pope, are none
of them Fundamental Do-
ctrines.* What greater Ap-
ology could be made for
the Church of England,
which he has so much
defam'd : seeing these are
the onely shameful Causes,
for which we dissented from
Rome?

But I leave him to be cor-
rected by the Pope's Sen-
tence

tence for these Heresies; which perhaps the Holy Father has reason to think, do more shake the Holy Chair, than the five points of Jansenius that he condemn'd: which Monsieur de Sorbier says, *did raise a dispute about P.60, a matter of Nothing.* From our Religion, Let us follow him to our Government. And here, Sir, I was at first a little at a stand how to deal with him. But I have heard of the Magnanimous resolution of the late

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
late Duke of Buckingham,*
who would never permit
any *Apology* to be written for
him. And I consider, that
it is almost as great an arro-
gance for *one* obscure *Wri-*
ter, to undertake to defend
the Actions of Great *Princes*,
as it is for *another* to defame
them. I will not therefore
inlarge my Speech in the
praises of the present hap-
piness of *England*, or in
paying all the acknowledg-
ments, which are due to
our *Sovereign*, for the blef-
tings of His Reign. That is

a Subject fitter for a more elaborate Volum, than a single Letter, and for a far more elegant Pen than mine. I will onely here shew the Vanity of our *Historiographers* groundless suggestions. And as an Introduction to what he says, concerning the *Political* condition of this *Nation*, I will first observe how he deals with some others of the chief *Crown'd Heads* in *Europe*. You will perhaps, Sir, be very hardly induc'd to believe, that he can be guilty

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
ty of disrespect to Monarchy,
or Sovereign Princes;* when
you behold him so Panegy-
rically given towards that
Government, has to take the
pains, to go five or six thou-
sand miles, to find out a
Race of Kings to commend.
For he here speaks very zeal-
ously in praise of the most
virtuous, and most religious
Kings of China! This, Sir, I
cannot but applaud in him;
and to shew how much this
one testimony of his good
manners has wrought with
me, I will not be harsh up-
on

on him in this place. I
will not call in question the
credit of his Intelligence
from the farthest East, which
you see is so false, about a
Country, that lies only seven
Leagues distant from his
own. Nay, I will not so
much as inquire whether e-
ver he met with any Chinese
Madam Fiennes to give him P.118.
this Information. I will
graunt, that the Kings of
China have been great Men-
ders of Bridges, and Planters
of Orchards. But I will only
now softly put him in
mind

In mind, that while his Pen did overflow with sweet words, upon the Kings of China, he has handled the Kings of Sweden and Denmark more cruelly, than Dionysius the Tyrant would have done, when he was a King, much less when he was a Schole-Master.

P. 116. Of the two last Kings of Sweden he affirms, that their Glory is almost wholly vanish'd: and that all moderate men must needs read the Desolations, which they caus'd with Horror. You see, Sir, what an excellent

lent occasion he has here given me of Triumphing over him. You know very well, how many great, and irresistible arguments, this matter might suggest to me: what might not be said of that *Victorious Nation*? how copious might be inter-tolling the indefatigable Industry, the Conduct, the Good Fortune, the Generosity of those Kings? What Passions might here be rais'd, in appealing to all Mankind, and in aggravating the common misery of

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
all Great Commanders of
Armies, if it shall be per-
mitted to every small Pam-
phleteer to invade their
Lives, and to arraign their
Ashes, when he pleases ?*
*But there is no need of go-
ing so powerfully to work,
or of employing against him
any of the Lofty, and Tra-
gical Forces of Eloquence.
It will suffice, if I recall to
his Memory, the Title in
which he boasts so much.
I will only ask him, how the
Historiographer of France can
affect the Wars of *Gustavus
Adolphus**

Adolphus to have been horrible Diyastations, without casting some share of the Dishonor on the *Crown* of France it self? For (if we will believe all the French Writers of that time) there was a strict Confederacy, and a real Union of Interests, between those Two mighty Monarchs. I give him leave to use the Fame of the Kings of Sweden as he pleases. Let them in his account pass for Theives, and Oppressors; They deserve so to be us'd for they were mor-

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
tal Enemies to that belov'd
Country, with whose Musick,
and Latin, and Dancing, he
was before so much ravish'd.*
 I only bid him look back
on the relation, which Lewis
the Just had to Lewis the
Fourteenth, and then let him
try to vindicate himself for
overturning the Trophies
of the Father, in the same
Book, wherein he declares,
that He travell'd abroad in a
Waggon, to spread the glo-
ry of the Son. esvind T. 101

But the Fame of those
dead Princes is plac'd above

the reach of his Envy: let us, Sir, consider how he behaves himself towards the living. What a long Story (or rather, as he himself stiles it, *Romance*) has he here made, of the life of Ulfelt the Dane, on which he builds the justification of his Crimes, and condemns the King of Denmark's Justice? And yet at the same time he acknowledges, that He took the whole Relation, only from the Mouth of Ulfelt's own Wife. After this, have the Kings of China any great reason to be

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
proud of this Mans good
will? when he has here ex-
press'd no more Judgment,
nor Integrity, than from
the single and partial Infor-
mation of a Woman, to ac-
quit a man that had been
hang'd in Effigie in Den-
mark, and has been since
kill'd as he was pursued for
High Treason?

Upon the sight of all this,
Sir, I may well return se-
curely Home, to examine
his opinion of the Imper-
fections of our State. And
here I must not forget to
acquaint

acquaint you, that he is not all over Satirical; But in several places he sprinkles some few kind words to our advantage. Yet his Com-
mendations are so directly contrary to his reproaches; that instead of reconciling me to him, they rather sup-
ply me with new arguments against him. And who can desire an easier Adver-
sary to deal with, than such a one, who, when he speaks against us, opposes evident Truth, when he speaks for us, contradicts himself?

L 4 This

This Inconsistency of his own mind with it self, is apparent in this *Political* part of his *Relation*, which now comes under my Censure: He confesses, Our King to be

P. 123. one of the best Princes in the World: He declares, that His Majesty us'd him with all imaginable sweetness, and that by the Charms of His Discourse,

P. 120. he sent him away as well pleas'd, as if he had loaded him with his Presents. I intreat you now, Sir, to recollect, how this, and that which follows hangs together.

Firſt, He ſuggests, that
perhaps there was not ſo much
pretence for the people to rebel
in the late Kings time, as there
is at this preſent. In the re-
ply which I ſhall make to
this Paſſage, I cannot, Sir,
confine my ſelf to the bare
limits of a ſatisfactory An-
ſwer: but I muſt permit
my Zeal for the Proſperity
of our Country, to break
forth into Expreſſions of
Joy, and Gratitude. It is
fit that all the World ſhould
know, that as our King was
reſtor'd with the moſt mira-
culous

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
culous submission of minds,
and interests, that ever any
History can shew : as he was
establish'd on the Throne of
his Ancestors , while there
were two mighty Armies on
Foot, that had fought against
him and his Father : so there
can be no difficulty in con-
tinuing this quiet, now he
has all the power of the Na-
tion in his hands, and now
his Enemies are scattered,
and disarm'd (if yet he
can be thought to have any
real Enemies, after so ma-
ny Heroick Testimonies of
cruelty his)*

his Mercy) The condition of all his affairs abroad is in such a posture, in respect of his Neighbors, that he is as far from being lyable to receiye Injuries unreveng'd, as he is averse in his own disposition from doing wrongs unprovok'd. And the small dissentions that still remain on some of his Subjects minds at home, are so far from hazarding the safety, that they will rather make for the Honor of his Reign. For by his renew'd and generous indeavours to-
wards

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
wards the composing of
these differences, there will
arise for him a continued
succession of Peaceful Tri-
umphs, of which the occa-
sions had been wanting to
him, if he had found us all
of one mind. And many
such Victories as these, we
may justly presage to our
Sovereigns future Government. The Forces which
he employs against those
few that are still contuma-
cibus, which are those of
Affability, and Forgiveness,
are impossible to be resisted.
absw

Who

Who ever contends with his Adversaries with those weapons, he has not only his own Virtues, but theirs on his side. And as these are the surest Conquests, so they are of the greatest renown. In the Triumphs of War, his Souldiers, his Commanders, and even Fortune it self, would come in for a share in the Fame: But those which are obtain'd by pity, and by pardoning, have no Partners in the honor, but are wholly to be attributed to the King himself.

But

But for a proof of our
calm and well-secur'd con-
dition, I appeal from this
Triflers Conjectures, to the
Parliament it self, which is
the true Representative of
the Affections of the whole
Kingdom. If he would
have been willing to refer
the matter to their decision,
he might have found all
things so free from any like-
lyhood of new disturban-
ces, that they have been still
as inclin'd to be severe a-
gainst the Kings ill-willers,
as he himself has been to be
gentle;

gentle : and as sollicitous to
guard his *Royal Person*, with
their lives and fortunes, as
he has been carefull, that
he might need no other de-
fence, but his own goodness.

Yet since he is resolv'd
not to stand to the determi-
nation of that great Assem-
bly, which he modestly terms
an extravagant Body, let us P. 130.
see what reports he has
pick'd up amongst the mal-
contents of the Vulgar : He
says, that they everywhere
complain of the neglect of the
interest

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
interest of Trade, of the mis-
spending of the Treasure, of
the oppressions of the Court,
and of the decrease of our
glory at Sea.

All this, Sir, he professes
to take from the murmurs of
the multitude. And if they
are guilty of such discour-
ses, more then the Commu-
nality of other Countries,
they justly deserve the Ti-
tles that he gives them, of a
suspicious, a sullen, an insolent,
and an envious Generation.
But then, Sir, if the mean
and ignorant people ought
so

so much to be condemn'd
for upbraiding their Gov-
ernors, though they only
do it in private, when they
are heated with drink, and
under the protection of a
cloud of Tobacco smoak.: what P.130.
punishment does that *Hig-
florian* deserve, who thought
good to collect their dis-
contents, and to make him-
self worse than the Authors of them, by being the
first that reports them in
this publick way! What
credit could he expect to
get, by repeating these low
sodomy M scan-

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Scandals*, when it was dis-
honourable for him only to
confess, that he came into
such places, and companies,
where he might over-hear
them ? This Reprehension,
Sir, he ought to have under-
gone, if all this that he re-
lates had been true : But if
we take it in pieces, we
shall find that he libells the
very Suburbs, and that his
ink is black enough to re-
present the worst slanders
of the Rabble, in darker
colours than their own.
wol ass for i the repinings
which

which he heard concerning
the diminution of Trade. You
know, Sir, that it is the
publique, and the cheerfull
voice of all Englishmen, that
are ingag'd in Traffick, that
there have been farr more
incouragements for Mer-
chants, and more vigorous
attempts for the advance-
ment of Commerce, within
these four years and halfe
than in many yeres before.
I might for a proof of this
allege the Royal Council, that
is A particularly set up for
that purpose. I might also

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
stance in the increase of the
Customes, which from thir-
ty or forty thousand pounds
in the latter end of Queen
Elizabeth's Reign, do now
amount to almost four
hundred thousand a year.*
I might urge all the Procla-
mations for the prohibiting
of foreigne Manufactures,
and for the improvement of
our own: I might reckon
up the many new Statutes
for the repairing of Ha-
vens, the mending of Hig-
ways, and the cutting of Ri-
vers: But it is enough only
to

to mention the Institution
of the *Royal Fishing*, and
the *Royal Company*: In both
which our *King* has pro-
perously begun a Designe,
which will infallibly make
the *English* the Masters of
the Trade of the world ;
and that is the bringing in
of our *Gentry*, and *Nobility*,
to contribute towards it.
When this shall be brought
about, not all the little
Crafts of the *Hollanders*, P. 151,
(which he magnifies so ^{152,}
much) will serve their turn :
But the *English* will outgo
M 3 them

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
them in Industry, and Stock,
as much as they do already
in Shoars, in Ports, in Ships,
in Valour, in Virtue. This,
Sir, we shall undoubtedly
live to see accomplish'd, see-
ing the Gentlemen of Eng-
land have so great an Ex-
ample before them ; of a
King, who does not only
make the Arts of Com-
merce and Navigation his
business, and his interest,
but his very delight and re-
creation,*

*What he says of our
Treasure, is most impudent-
ly*

ly objected against that Prince, who has retrench'd himself in those expences which his Predecessors maintain'd, when the Revenue of the Crown was farr lesse. And he chose a very unseasonable time, to pro- P. 132.
claim, that the Blood-suckers of the Court devour the people, when those Blood-suckers have parted with their very Food, and the ancient Dues of their Offices, to lessen the charge of the Publique. But his loudest outcry concerns the loss
babub

168 Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
P. 130. of our Dominion at Sea. And
here he most invidiously com-
pares the times of the Rump,
with our present Naval Power.
First of all, he might have
understood, that the Fleets
which were then set forth
against the Dutch did main-
ly consist of the late King's
Ships; and also that the
whole Estates of the Crown,
the Clergy, most of the No-
bility, and Gentry, and in-
deed well nigh of the whole
Nation were then at the
fl^usurpers disposal. From
hence he might have con-
cluded,

cluded; that even the Glory of their Victories is not so much to be given to the Riches and Interest of Scott, Haslrig, or Vane, as to the Treasures of the King, and the Royal Party. But besides this, Sir, What will he be able to answer me, when I shall tell him, that our King has made our Sea-provisions far stronger then ever they were in any Age or Countrey before; and that too only by the help of a Reyenué bounded by Law, and limited to the strict

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
strict Rules of Justice?* of
the truth of this, he might
speedily have been con-
vinc't, if he had visited any
one of our Royal Stores, in-
stead of describing Smith-
field, Bedford Garden, the
Conduits of London, More-
fields, Hatfield Fishponds, and
St Catharines College in Ox-
ford. Never was there a
greater abundance of Ma-
terialls in readiness! Ne-
ver more skillfull Builders!
Never more formidable
Preparations! Never more
expert Seamens! Never
more

more valiant Commanders! and, in one word to perfect all, never a *Brauer Admiral* ! An *Admiral* of whose undaunted courage, unwearied diligence, and fortunate Conduct, all the Nations round about us have been held so many unquestionable proofs, even from the very first years of his youth. And if I thought that all the men of Honor, wherewith *France* now abounds, were not yet satisfied how little *Monsieur de Sorbiere* deserves to be His-
to-riographer

British

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Topographer Royal,* I would de-
fine no other instance to
prove it, than only this;
that when he declares he
came into England, to con-
tent his curiosity, to see all
the rare things, and men a-
mongst us, yet he scarce
mentions the Duke of York.
I will admit that hither-
to he has only recited the
extravagancies of the Rab-
ble; let us now, Sir, come
to that place, wherein he
has chiefly exercised the
profoundness of his skill,
*his own speculations, on the
defects*

defects of our Monarchy, and
the Factions of our Court.
And that you may know
how conversant he has been
in all intrigues of State, as
well as those of the Muses,
I will give you his positive
determination of one of
the gravest points of Policy
that ever was debated at a
Council Table; and it shall
be in his own words, to his
intimate Friend Monsieur de
Vaubrun. To you Monsieur P. 116,
de Vaubrun (says he) being
my Bosome Friend, a man that
esteems me much, and one
whom

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
whom I honour infinitely, being
also a Gentleman, that loves
justice, as well as fighting; I
will reveal the bottom of my
heart, and tell you the most
secret of all my thoughts.
What weighty matter does
he introduce with this so
leisure Preface? He com
plains that the learned men
of the English are not enough
communicative. Certainly
we shall find him of a bett
ter temper: Not doubt he
will now unfold some new
Principle of Policy, and of
the Laws of Humane Societ
ty,

ty, which he has discover'd, that is not yet ripe for the publique, and only fit to be committed to the trust of a particular confident. It proves so indeed! The Oracle w^{ch} he immediately pronounces, is this: *That Man P. 171.* was not made by Nature to fight with Man, but rather to enjoy the Benefits of peace; that God has not given us horns, hoofs, or claws; but *Os homini sublime dedit*. This, Sir, is all the mighty Mystery, of which he discharges his breast with sighs.

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
so much Ceremony. And
in which is he now more
ridiculous, his History, or
his Policy ? His History, in
speaking so many false re-
proaches aloud ; his Policy,
in whispering such trifles
with so much caution. I
beseech you, Sir, let us
allow him the reputation of
this new invention entire.
Though he did not think fit
to name the famous Author
of the *Lunar Globe*, which
be fam in the Kings Closet :
Yet I intend to be juster to
him : And I will propose
this*

this Epitaph to be grav'd
on his Tomb ; *Hic jacet
primus Author hujus senten-
tiae, Pax Bello Potior.*

This, Sir, is one tryal of
his *Contemplative*, you shall
have more of his *Practical
Politicks*. He has ventur'd
to declare the *Queen Mothers* P. 127.
thoughts, about her most
private, and Domestick
concernments; which were
so near to her, that it was
impossible for a thousand
Madame Fiennes, to have
given him any instruction
about them. And in this
mood

N he

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
 he had no reverence for
 the greatest, and the most
 virtuous Prince^s of this
 Age, for the Mother of our
 King, nor for the Daughter
 of Henry the Great. He has
 made a disadvantageous
 Character upon my Lord

P. 128. St. Albans to the French Na-
 tion, where he was before
 so well known, and where
 he liv'd long in so much
 honour. He has profum'd
 him the King himself:

P. 129. sawcily conjectures at the
 reasons of the choice
 his Ministers, as if he had
 been

been admitted into his Royal Breast as well as his Cabinet.

He says, that His Majesty is P. 121.
for'd to be familiar with his Nobility, and Gentry, to keep their esteem and good will: and so he endeavours to bring down those Vertues, of which he himself receiv'd so many proofs, to be only works of necessity. But seeing he confesses this generous affability to be able to hinder the Kings Subjects from rebellion, methinks it might have prevail'd on a mean Stranger,

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's

to spare the Reputation of
his Kingdomes. He insi-

P. 132. nuates, that the true Sovereign
Power amongst us resides in
the People. Which is a Do-
ctrine that was scarce ever
heard of in England till the
year Forty eight, and va-
nish'd in Sixty. He af-

P. 148. firms, that there is a mixture
of all sorts of Government in
the composition of our State,
notwithstanding that we
have so many Acts of Par-
liament that devolve the
whole power on the Crown.
His long discourse of the

Privi-

Privileges of the House of P.133,
Commons, and the degrees of ^{to} 143.
their increase, is nothing, but
a wild Whimsy of his own
Brain. There is no men-
tion in any English Historian,
that Edward the first, was the P.137.
King that first call'd Knights,
and Burgesses, to sit in Parli-
ament : or that when they
were so conven'd, he only us'd
their Counsel, and rejected
those of the Nobility and Gen-
try. And yet upon these
imaginary faults, of which
he supposes Edward the first
Guilty, he here takes him in-

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Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
P. 141, to his discipline, reads to him
142, a tedious Lecture of the Arts
143. of Government, and treats
the Wisest and most Victori-
ous Prince of Christendom in
that time, as imperiously as
if he had been a Cadet of the
House of Swzg. But I am
weary, Sir, of taking notice
of such errors, which are
only mistakes in History or
Chronology. At least I need
not go three hundred years
back for them, seeing he is
so much besides the Truth,
in his account of the most
Renown'd action in this

Age : the Kings Return ;
Which be wholly attributes to
the Presbyterians. All the
circumstances of that glo-
rious Restoration are still,
Sir, fresh in our memories :
the very noyse of those Tri-
umphs, w^{ch} fill'd the whole
World with admiration,
seems to be yet scarce out
of our Ears. And shall we
suffer him to fix all the ho-
nor of that Immortal Work
on a private Sect ? Where-
as it was accomplish'd by
the immediate favour of di-
vine Providence , by the
nob N 4 Wisdom

P. 58.

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Wisdom of a Victorious Gen-
eral, by the perpetual and
immoveable Fidelity of the
Royal Party, by the Hands,
the Wishes, the Tongues,
and the united Desires of
three Kingdoms.* *Tis true*
indeed, the Presbyterians went
along with the mighty Torrent; *But the whole course*
of this happy Violence is
not therefore to be attribu-
ted to them. *You see, Sir,*
I am unawares fallen into a
Metaphor, which does best
resemble that Enterprize.
It was in that, as in a sud-
molley.

den Land-Flood, which, as it comes down, carries with it Trees, and Stones, and Houses, and all that it meets in the way. And even all these which lay before quiet, nay which resisted the first Waters, while they were weak, do add to the impetuosity of the Current, when it is going. But we must not therefore say that the Flood it self took its rise from thence : seeing it was, in truth, caus'd by Rain coming down from Heaven, and by Streams flowing in from

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
from every part of the
Country.* This allusion, Sir, I think does represent
the whole matter to your
mind. If it does not, how-
ever I have return'd Mons-
eur de Sorbiere, an ill Simili-
tude for one of his, where
P. 47. he compares the *Protestants* to
the Ottoman Empire: which
is so much an *Intrigue of the
Muses*, that I will challenge
all the Wits of *England*,
and *France*, to interpret it.
But if the *Covenanters* shall
still be fond of this praise,
which he here allows them,

let

let them remember of how little value his Panegyricks are, seeing he calls Ulfelt a Heroe: and if they will still maintain that they restor'd the King, let them take heed lest some mischievous Royalist should tell them, that in one sence they did indeed occasion the Kings Restoration. But in the same that *Quintus Maximus* meant after he had recover'd *Tarentum*: who gave this answer to another Roman that had lost that place before, and yet boasted what

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
what share he had in re-
gaining it. 'Tis true (says
he) it was by your means
indeed; *Nam nisi tu perdi-
disses Tarentum, ego nunquam
recuperassem.*

But the chief Secret into
which he has pierc'd, is the
late Controversie between
my Lord Chancellor, and the
Earl of Bristol. What
subtile conclusions does he
draw from it? what pro-
phetical visions does he
here reveal, concerning the
terrible disturbances, that
shall arise to our Govern-
ment,

ment, many ages hence, from an accident, which was at an end, before he got back to *Paris*? What a formal division has he made of the whole Nation? *Homer* himself is not so punctual in marshalling the forces of the *Greeks*, and the *Trojans*: nor is there less fiction in this *History*, than in his Poetry. On the Earl of *Bri-*
stols quarter, he places the dis-
contented against the Court,
the City of *London*, the Pres-
byterians that brought in the
King, the House of *Lords*, ha-
yelion great,

P. 126,
127.

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
 great, and a strong party of the
 House of Commons, which he
 says is the true Body of that
 extravagant Body the Parlia-
 ment. An Army numerous
 and formidable. On the
 Lord Chancellor's side, he ranks
 P. 127, the Royal Family, the Bishops,
 128, Deans, and Chapters, all the
 129. Nobility, all the Rich Mer-
 chants, and Burghesses, (though
 he had before bestow'd the House
 of Lords, and the City of Lon-
 don on the Earl of Bristol.)
 Thus he has drawn the
 whole Kingdome into Bat-
 tle; It is but now perfo-
 ming

ming his office of Trumpeter, and a dreadfull Battle will no doubt ensue. But how comes it to pass that all these Rumors of mighty warrs did vanish on the sudden? Was it because they were *English Cowards*, P. 21. and dar'd not fight? Alas, Sir, all this was only a fine story of encounters in the Air, whereof there was no other foundation then in the wild fancies of his own making. And may we not give that Character of our Historian, which he does of one still

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
one of the Noble Comba-*

P.126. *tants, that his great Wit has
inclin'd him to be Romantick?
Is not this the true trick of
a Romancer, to bring in ma-
ny Princes fighting together
in a wood, without giving
any account how they came
thither?*

But the danger is over.
All is quiet again; and long
may it so keep. For to
speak t'yea, Sir, from the bot-
tome of Monsieur de Sorbier's
beart, *Peace is better then
Warr.* Well then. He

P.129. grants that the Victory did a
little

little incline to my Lord Chancellor's Party : yet he has shewn the bravery of his own mind, by defying the Conquerour. And here, Sir, I confess he has driven me upon one of the tenderest points in the world ; which is the speaking concerning the fame of a great Man, while he is living. But I entreat you to lay before your eyes the many powerfull arguments, by which I am mov'd at least to give a true testimony, though not a long elogie, concerning him.

Q My

. Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
My Lord Chancellor is a man
through whose hands the
greatest part of all the pub-
lique and private businesses
of our Countrey do pass.
And it will be most dishon-
orable for us, to suffer
his name to be revil'd in
this manner, while he is
scarce at leisure to look to
its defence himself, by rea-
son of his eternal Labors
for the publique Justice and
Safety. And besides this,
Sir, I can, for my own par-
ticular, allege another mo-
tive of nearer concernment.

For

For I am to consider my self, as a Member of the Royal Society, and the University of Oxford, and the Earl of Clarendon, as Protector of one them, and Chancellor of the other.

These, Sir, are some of his true Titles, however Monsieur *de Sorbier* is pleas'd to pass them over, and give him worse in their stead. First of all, he says that he is a Presbyterian. At P. 125. this ridiculous scandal, I assure you, Sir, I am not much griev'd. I was (to

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
tell you true) in a terrible
affright, when I read what
he reports, that almost all*

P. 127. *the City of London are Pres-
byterians. But now I this
passage has compos'd my
mind again: For it is like
to be a very exact compu-
tation, which he has made
of that Sect, when the first
man that he names for a
Presbyterian, is my Lord Chan-
cellor. He next tells us,
that he is a man of the Law;
a shamefull disgrace: the
Lord Chancellor of England,
whose Office it is to govern
this*

land moderate the Law, is a Lawyer. As if I should still deavour to lessen the credit of Monsieur de Vaubrun, and prove him unfit to be Gouverneur of Philippe Ville, and Colonel of Light-horse, by objecting that he is a Soldier; or of Monsieur de Sorbiere to be Historiographer Royal, by saying that he is skill'd in Historie. But he is a Lawyer, and Statesman at once. Can this be any more disparagement to him, than it is to the whole Body of Lawyers in France, who

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
in all times have manag'd
the greatest Employments
of that State? Could he not
have recollect'd, before he
writ this, that Monsieur de
Segrier, the present Chan-
cellor of France, is a Gentle-
man of the Long Robe? You
see, Sir, what a good Saty-
rist we have here got, who
would undertake to abuse
an English Statesman with
such an argument, which
must at the same time re-
flect as much upon his own
Countrymen, his chief
Friends, and Parsons, to
whom

whom he directs his Speech.
But the worst is still behind.
My Lord Chancellor is utterly ignorant of the Belles Lettres. P. 125.
This accusation is as deceiving as all the former. He dislikes our Carriers, for not being Courtly; our Soldiers, for not putting off their Hatts well; our Bishops, for their Gravity; and our States-men, for not being Grammarians, and Criticks. But I will prove to him, by his own confession, that *My Lord Chancellor deserves not this Reproachment*; and that he is a man skillful

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
skillful in all Polite Learn-*
P. 126. ing. He himself allows him
to be a great Politician, and
a very Eloquent Man. I have
obtain'd, Sir, what I desir'd.
You see how easy it is to
justify the *Earl of Claren-*
don, seeing the very man,
that vilifies him, does at the
same time gainsay himself,
and suggest to me his pray-
ses, without my interposing
any word in his commenda-
tion. If we should graunt,
that a man may chance to
be a great dealer in *Politicks,*
without understanding any
thing

thing else (which yet no
thing but Monsieur de Sorbie
gives in his own example) in this
place, I can perswade us to
be possible) yet how can he
be thought to attain to a perfect
Eloquence without any skill in
the Civil Arts? Where now
is his Polite Learning? whence
did he fetch this Idea of E-
loquence? Let him produce
his Notes out of Aristotle,
Tully, *Quintilian*, *Seneca*, or
any of the Rhetoricians of
Antiquity; And then let
him tell me, whether they
do not all with one voice
consent

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
consent, that an *Orator* must
of necessity be acquainted
with all sorts of useful know-
ledge? But because he is so
free in his reproof of my
Lord Chancellors unskillful-
ness in the *Belles Lettres*: I
pray, Sir, what signs has
this great *Artificer* him-
self given, of his own pro-
ficiency in them? Where
do we find in him any foot-
steps of the True Spirit of
the *Grecian* or *Roman* Wit?
What reason have we to en-
vy his judgment in the *Classi-
cal Authors*, when all the
evidence proof

proof that he has given in
this Book, of his being con-
versant in them, are (only
three or four) pedanticall
Quotations, of which the
chief is; *Quis Hominis sublimus dedit?*
Os *Hominis sublimus dedit?*
Thus far, Sir, in re-
ply to him: But more is
to be added concerning the
Honourable Person, of whom
he speaks in such high
terms. *My Lord Chanceller*
is a Gentleman of a
very ancient Family, of
which Mr. Camden makes
mention in his *Britannia*.

His

gut

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
His Education and first
years were spent in a strict
familiarity with many of
the most Famous Men, not
only of that Age, but per-
haps of any other : of whom
(to pass by some Reverend
and Learned Church-men
that are living) it is enough
to name Mr. Chillingworth,
and the Lord Falkland.
His first application to the
Affairs of his Countrey,
was in a time wherein ex-
traordinary fidelity and
sufficiency were requir'd.
His Services to the late
King

King were requited by the committing of many eminent Businesses to his management; and by a very high share in his Majesties Favour; of which there are indelible proofs in many places of that Excellent Prince's Letters. Under him he was Chancellor of the Exchequer, Privy Counsellor, and design'd Secretary of State. Since that time he was Extraordinary Embassador into Spain, and attended his present Master in his Misfortunes, which was undoubtedly

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
doubtedly the most glorious
Scene of Honour in the
world. By these several
degrees of Great Employ-
ments, he ascended to that
illustrious Station which he
now enjoys.* And as for
the Qualifications of his
Minde, if it be needfull to
adde any thing to the Votes
of the Royal Society, and the
University of Oxford, I will
declare, that of all the men
of great worth, who have
possess'd that High Office,
since Learning and the Ci-
vill Arts came amongst us,
there

there was never any man
that has so much resembled Sir Thomas More, and
the Lord Bacon, in their several Excellencies, as the
Earl of Clarendon. To grub
There might, Sir, much
more be answer'd against all
his false Insinuations, con-
cerning the Political Condi-
tion of England. But I have
seen a Book of Monsieur de
Sorbiere's Discourses and Let-
ters, whereof many were
written to the late Cardinal
Mazarini; and they are so
full of gross flatteries, that
they

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
they have wholly turn'd my
stomach, from speaking any
more of State Affairs : So
that in truth, in the present
humour into which the rea-
ding of them has put me,
I had much rather offend
on the other extream, by an
unjust silence, than by im-
pertinent praises of the
English Government. I will
therefore conclude this
whole matter, as I began it,
by reflecting on a Passage
of his own, in the story of
Ulefelt ; wherein he has gi-
ven undeniable testimony,
that

that he is wholly ignorant
of the Rights of Princes,
the true Policy, and the
Law of Nations. He af-
firms, that Ulefelt fled into P. 18.
Sweden, that he became there-
by effectually a Traitor, that
he was the cause of the Swedes
last invasion into Denmark, by
advising Carolus Gustavus
to turn his Army, from the
Poles, against Copenhagen.
These are his own words.
And what more apparent
Crime could there be then
this, which had like to have
drawn after it the utter Ru-

P. inc.

P. 186. ine of that Kingdome? And yet immediately after he professes, that he makes no doubt, but the Illustrious Heroes, Ulefelt, and his Wife, will live to see their great merits acknowledg'd, and to enjoy in peace the applauses that are due to them for their fidelity to their King, and their zeal for the Fundamental Laws of their Countrey.

Fref.

But this, Sir, I suppose, is one of those which he himself calls the Besueues of his style : which though (as he says) Monsieur de Vau-

en

brun

brun uses to forgive, yet the King of France did not think fit to pass by.

This is the Idea that he has drawn of the *Manners*, the *Religion*, and the *Government* of the *English*. But these are not the subjects which he principally regards : such matters as these, he confesses, that he only uses to touch upon, *as they come in his way*. I will now therefore, Sir, consider his commerce with the chief heads of *Parnassus*, and his intrigues of the *Muses*; that is

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
(to speak plain sense, without
the help of *Apollo*) I will
examine some particulars in
the account that he gives of
the state of knowledge a-
mongst us : This is the ar-
gument in which he tri-
umphs : This is a Busi-
Ep. De. ness in whose promotion he has
spent the whole course of his
life. And that he may ap-
pear not to have bestow'd
all his labour in vain, I will
allow, that he ought to be
numbred amongst the men
of Learning ; Provided
that he be content with that
defi-

definition w^{ch} he himself has laid down of Learned men in general ; For he says, that it is the good custome of such men, to render themselves ridiculous by their malignity, and their Billings-gate-language. In conformity to this description, besides what is already past, let us now behold what he reports of Dr. Wallis, Dr. Willis, Mr. Hobbs, the Royal Society, the English Stage, their Eloquence, their Language, and their Authors.

Dr. Wallis be condemnns
for his ill usage of Mr. Hobbs.

P 3 in

libr. 100

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
in the Mathematical Contro-
versies that have pass'd be-
tween them.* ¹⁰ I will not en-
deavour to make any de-
fence for this knowing and
acute Professor, as he grants
him to be. But yet let me
say, that if Monsieur de Sor-
bier himself being the Judge,
so much modesty of lan-
guage ought to be pre-
serv'd, even in the conten-
tions of Wit and Argument,
when Passion is apt to over-
bear the most temperate
Minds; then certainly he
himself ought to have been
careful

careful of keeping to the same rule, in an *Historical Relation*, wherein he had no adversary to put him into a heat, and nothing but his own natural peevishness to exasperate his Anger. Dr. Wallis Entertain'd him at his house, made him partake of his Experiment upon a dumb Man, and behold the Model of a flat Floor, which (he says) did raise admiration in Mr. Hobbs P. 94,
95. himself. And for all this, he might have deserv'd at least, to have been pass'd by in silence. But he had

Mr. Sorbier's
subject to be merry
for want of Polish Mu-
sick, and he must needs
give the receipt of making
an University Cap. Take a
Portefeuille: cover it with
black Cloth: fix a tuft of Silk
upon it: and sew it to a Calot:
and you have a perfect four
corner'd Scholastical Bonnet.
Do you not now wonder,
Sir, why he did not call
himself *Taylor*, as well as
Trumpeter, to the Common-
wealth of Learning? What
kind of good breeding is
this? How can he, after this,
obje&

object to Dr. Wallis, that he
has little in him of the Gallant
Man? Whose behavior has
the strongest scent, and wants
most to be purify'd by the air of
the Court? The Geometrical
receives him kindly at his
Table: The *Historiographer*
Laughs at the habit of his Host.
While he allows him extra-
ordinary abilities, that are
proper to himself, he abuses
him for that, which is com-
mon with him to the Sorbo-
nists in France, and almost all
the Universities and Clergy-
men in Christendom.

P. 100.

P. 101.

He

P. 94.

He declares that he profited very little by Dr. Willis's company, because he could not understand his Latin. And upon this he objects, that

P. 94.

all the English pronounce that Language with such an odd Tone, as renders it almost as difficult to strangers, as our own Tongue. I might here, Sir, allege in defence of our pronunciation, that We do as all our neighbors besides: We speak the antient Latin, after the same way that we pronounce our Mother Tongue, so the Germans do, so

so the *Italians*, so the *French*.

But the obscurity of our Speech being not only his complaint, but of many other Foreigners, I will not stand long in its justification. There are so many peculiar flanders of greater concernment, w^{ch} he alone has fix'd upon us, that I will not regard this small objection, wherein there may be others, that agree with him. But however, Sir, from hence I may observe, that it was therefore impossible for him to take a right measure of

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
of the English Manners, and
Disposition,* seeing he was in-
capable of holding any sort
of correspondence with us.
He was not in a condition
of being inform'd by our
Gentry, our Farmers, or our
Tradesmen, because he under-
stood no English : nor by
our Schollars, our Physicians,
our Divines, our Mathematicians,
because he professes,
that our Latin was unintelli-
gible to him.

But to return, Sir, to Dr.
Willis : I am able to give
another Reason, why Monsieur

sieur de Sorbiere did profit so little by his Conversation. The substance of it was reported to me from Dr. Willis his own Mouth. And I doubt not, but the remarkable sincerity, and integrity, which that excellent Man preserves in all his Writings, would make this character of the other's vanity to be believ'd, though we had not so many other proofs of it. When Monsieur de Sorbiere came first to visit him; the Doctor esteem'd him to be a man of some real and solid knowledg

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
knowledg: the great names
of Des Cartes, and Mersennus,
which he hath frequently
in his Mouth, might have
perswaded him as much:
he began to treat him accor-
dingly: he enter'd into di-
scourse with him, about
some parts of Chymistry, and
Phyfick, in which he desir'd
his opinion. The Profes-
sor deliver'd it franckly,
and plainly, as it became a
Philosopher, without de-
ceit or ornament. But
expecting that he would
have continued the Argu-
ment,*

ment, with some material Objection, he soon found that the Traveller understood nothing of the whole matter : but answer'd him, as little to the purpose, as if he had only said *Pax Bello
Potion.* He try'd him in other subjects. But nothing could he get of him, except only some few Philosophical terms, and ends of Poetry, as *In puris naturalibus Ex aequo & Bono contundantur grossso modo. Homo est animal credulum & inendarum ; and Os homini.* Upon this

P.206.

P.188.

- Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
this he gave him over, as he
would have done a yong tra-
veller of twenty years old, &
left him to reckon the College
P.102. Quadrangles, to tell the Pil-
lars in Saint John's Cloysters,
to commend their Grove, to
P.103. measure King Harry's Sword,
to describe Saint Catherines
P.105. College (if there be any such
there,) to examine why one of
P.102. the Colleges took its name from
a Brazen Nose, to number the
P.103. Books in the Bodleian Library,
to consider why it was built in
the form of an H. and to count
P.104, how many Folios, and how ma-
105.*

my Quartals are above and below
low in cudry Shelf. q These,
Sir, he perceiv'd were fit
ten Subjects for Monsieur de
Soubiere too shapable. And
he has confirm'd this his
Opinion of him to be true.
For his long Tale of his
Journey to Oxford, is made
up of such childish con-
templations : While he was
speaking most of that place,
which for the beauty, and
convenience of its build-
ings, for the vastness of its
Revenue, and above all, for
the sobriety, the virtue, and

Q

the

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
the piety of its discipline,
is to be prefer'd before all
others that have been ever
dedicated to liberal Stud-
ies, in the past, or present
times.*

But here, Sir, I confess I
have been a little too rigid
upon him. It was ill
done of me, to expect that
he should on the sudden
turn so unlike himself, as to
give a good account of our
University alone. I will not
therefore bestir my self a-
gainst him, for having omit-
ted the most memorable
things

with a voyage into England.¹⁰

things in Oxford. My quarrel
to him now is upon another
score. He has here
committed a grosse over-
sight in his own way: For
in this exact enumeration of
all our fine Rarities, he has
wholly pass'd by one famous
Curiosity, which was of all
others the most proper for
such an Historiographer,
at least for such a Trumpet
mention, and that is
Queens College Horn.

From his new acquaintance,
I proceeded to his
rudeness, towards the baly

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
man in England, to whom
he professes himself to have been
long familiar.* Mr. Hobbs
was the chief man for whose
sake he came over; and he
speaks very many great things
in his commendation: he
praises his good humor, his ex-
cellent Wit, the vigor of his old
Age, and his long and diligent
search into Nature. After
this, Sir, you will perhaps
think that this Philosopher
is safe from his invectives.
But you will find it other-
wise, he commends him in-
deed for that, upon which

Mr. Hobbs lays not so much stress, for his good Breeding: but he wounds him in the most dangerous place, his Philosophy, and his understanding. He very kindly reports of him, that he is too P. 97.
dogmatical in his Opinions. P. 99.
that he Writ against the Church of Rome, because he never had a right Idea of it, in his thoughts, and because he had only read the controversies on the Protestant side. How i d'ye think, Sir, this will be found to Mr. Hobbs, who professes to have reduc'd all

the

Q 3

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
the Politicks to demonstra-
tions, when this Translator
shall tell him, that he con-
cluded against a Church,
and a Religion, before he had
heard one word that could
be said in their defence?*

*The Title of Dogmatical
which he gives him, being
propounded by a declar'd
Sceptick, was the worst fault
that could be charg'd on a
Philosopher, and indeed
it is the same, that he bestows
on Borri, while he strives in a
long Story, to render him to
appear nothing but a foolish
old Charletan.*

From

P. 177.
to 199.

old

Charletan.

Charletan. But let him not fear. I have no mind to aggravate this injury to Mr. Hobbs. It is the particular manner of his passing this judgment upon him, of which I will take notice. He tells the World that Mr. Hobbs was censur'd for Dogma-tical, between his Majesty, and himself, in his private discourse with him. And is not Monsieur de Sorbiere a very fit man, to upbraid to Dr. Wallis, his want of good manners: when he himself is at once rude to his antient Friend,

Q 4 and

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
and misfolcht to the King
himself, on inward betraying
what he was displeas'd to
Whisper to him in his Cab-
inet. quaffisq ait so transcrib.
But however, to comfort
Mr. Hobbes for this affront, I
dare assure him, that as for
Monsieur de Sorbier's part, he
understands not his Philo-
sophy! Of this I will give
an unanswerable testimony,
P. 97. and that is the resemblance
that he makes of him, to the
Lord Verulam: Between
whom there is no more like-
ness, then there was between
him He

St. George and the Waggoner! P. 97,
He says that Mr Hobbs was 98.

once in Amstelensis; from whence he has retain'd
very much of him: that he
has Studied H. T. s manner of
turning things so that he
just expresses himself in that
way of Allegory, wherein the au-
thor excell'd: and that he is
in Truth a very remaine of my
Lord Bacon. This, Sir, is
his opinion: but how far
from being True, let any
man judge, that has but
tasted of their Writings. I
scarce know two men in the
World,

World, that have more different colors of Speech, than these two great Witts: The Lord Bacon short, allusive, and abounding with Metaphors: Mr. Hobbs round, close, sparing of similitudes: but ever extraordinary decent in them. The one's way of reas'ning, proceeds on particulars, and pleasant images, only suggesting new ways of experimenting, without any pretence to the *Mathematicks*. The other's bold, resolv'd, settled upon general conclusions,

below

sions, and in them, if we will believe his Friend, Dog-matical.

But it is the Royal Society, to which he is most favourable, and that he may shew him self a great Benefactor to their designe, *he has been* P. 86.

allow'd Gresham College upon them. Whereas, you know, Sir, they only hold their present meetings there, by the permission of the Professors of the Foundation of Sir Thomas Gresham, to whom that house does belong. We are beholding to

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
to him for this noble Boun-
ty. But perhaps the Citizens
of London, who are the over-
seers of Sir Thomas Gresham's
Will, may take it ill at his
hands, especially having
such just ground to quarrel
with him already: For he
said before, that they are al-
most all Presbyterians or Pba-
neticks.

He comes to describe
the Weekly assemblies of the
Royal Society: and he does
it in words becoming a
meeting of Natural Philo-
sophers. The Uſer carries

a great Silver Mace before the President, Which is layd on the Cusion where he sitteth: they have a large Hall, and a handfom Ante-chamber: the place where they Assemble is Wainscotted: there is a long Table before the Chimney, seuen or eight grey Chairs about it: some Benches bebind, that are bare: the bindernost higher then the first: the President sitts in a Chair with Arms: his back to the Chimney: holding a wooden Hammer in his hand, therewith he sometimes knocks the Table to make silence.

P. 88,
89, 90.

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Can you, Sir, endure to read
all this stuff with any pa-
tience? I suffer'd his Tittle
Tattle upon Rochester Bridg,
upon the Eternal greeness of
the Fields of Kent, upon the
Walls of Lincolns-Inn-Fields,
on the Guild-Hall, on the
Rocks of Trees in Morefields,
and many more such pretty
Philosophical Discourses:
But is not this a shameful
figne of his weakness, that
he has insisted so long on
such mean circumstances,
while he was describing a
subject, that might have
yielded

yielded him so much noble
matter for his Pen? And
when the Royal Society it self
is so careful, that such ce-
remonies should be just no
more, then what are necessar-
ily to avoyd confusion?
What other language
should he have us'd then
this, if he had been to in-
form the World of his own
School at Orange? Just so the
should have proceeded.
Nor should I first have in-
clai'd, whether the Room
were Hung, or Wainscotted.
Nor, what the Master
of fate

*Observations on Mr. Serbier's
fate with his back towards
the Window, or the Chim-
ney : then how many Seats
there were for the Boys to
sit upon : at last he should
have drawn himself in a
majestic Chair, his Ferula
in his hand, and the poor
Scholars trembling for fear
at every rap on the Table.*
But all this is still pac-
ifiable; he has been utterly
mistaken in the report of
their malice & design. There
are two things, that they
have most industriously es-
vaded, which he attributes
to

to them; the one is a dividing
into parties, and Sects; and
the other, a reliance upon
Books, for their intelligence of
Nature. He first says, that
they are not all guided by the
authority of Gassendus, or Des
Cartes; but that the Mathe-
maticians are for Des Cartes,
and the Men of General Lear-
ning for Gassendus. Where-
as neither of these two
Men bear any sway amongst
them: they are never nam'd
there as Dictators: over
Reasons; nor is
there any extraordinary Re-

about R ference

P. 87,
88.

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
ference to their judgments.
He also asserts that the Royal
Society has appointed Lodgings,
and establish'd four thousand
Livres a year, upon two Pro-
fessors, who shall read to them
out of Authors, and that they
have begun a Library for that
purpose. Whereas they have
as yet no Library, but on-
ly a Repository for their
Instruments, and Rarities:
they never intend a Profes-
sorian Philosophy, but de-
clare against it: with Books
they meddle not farther,
then to see what Experi-*

ments

ments have been try'd before: their Revenue they designe for Operators, and not for Lecturers.

I now pass over to his chief delight, the Belles Lettres of the English. He grants our Stage to be handsom, the Musick tolerable, better I suppose, then that of the Polack Gentleman. But yet he says that our Poets laugh at the Rules of Time, and Place: that all our Playes contain the Actions of Five and Twenty years: that we Marry a Prince in the First Act, and bring in his R 2

*Observations on Mr. Scobier's
his Son fighting in the Second,
and his Grand-child in the
Third.* But here, Sir, he
has committed a greater
disorder of time, than that
whereof he accuses our
Stage: For he has con-
founded the Reign of King
Charles the Second, with that
of Q. Elizabeth. 'Tis true
about an hundred years
ago, the English Poets were
not very exact in such de-
cencies: But no more then
were the Dramatists of any
other Countries. The En-
glish themselves did laugh
away

away such absurdities as soon as any, and for these last *Fifty* years, our Stage has been as Regular in those Circumstances, as the best in *Europe*. Seeing he thinks fit to upbraid our present Poets, with the errors of which their predecessors were guilty so long since: I might as justly impute the vile absurdities that are to be found in *Amadis de Gaul*, to *Monseigneur de Corneille*, *de Scudery*, *de Chapelaine*, *de Roture*, and the rest of the famous Modern French Wits,

P. 168. *Observations on Mr. Sorbier's*
He next blames the mean-
ness of the Humors which we
represent. And here, because
he has thrust this occasion
upon me, I will venture to
make a short comparison
between the French Drama-
tical Poetry, and ours. I
doubt not, Sir, but I may
do this with the leave of that
witty Nation: For as long
as I do not presume to slan-
der their manners (from
which you see I have care-
fully forborn) I hope they
will allow me to examine
that which is but a matte-

of Wit, and delight : I will not enter into open defiance of them, upon *Monsieur de Sorbiere's* account, but I intreat them to permit me only to try a civill Turnament with them in his *War of Letters*. I will therefore make no scruple to maintain that the *English Plays* ought to be preferr'd before the *French*. And to prove this, I will not insist on an argument, which is plain to any observer, that the greatest part of their most excellent pieces have been taken

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
from the Spaniard: where-
as the English have for the
most part trodden in new
ways of Invention.* From
hence I will not draw much
advantage: though it may
serve to balance that which
he afterwards says of our
Books, that they are generally

P. 169. *stolen out of other Authors.*
But I will sett the grounds
of my perswasion, from the
very nature, and use, of the
Stage it self. It is beyond
all dispute, that the true in-
tention of such Represen-
tations, is, to give to man-
kind

kind a Picture of themselves; and thereby to make Virtue belov'd, Vice abhor'd, and the little irregularities of mens tempers, call'd humors, expos'd to laughter. The Two first of these are the proper subjects of *Tragedy*, and *Trage-Comedy*. And in these I will first try to shew, why our way ought to be preferr'd before theirs. The French, for the most part, take only one, or two Great Men, and chiefly insist on some one remarkable accident of their

250

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
their Story: To this end,
they admit no more Persons,
then will barely serve to ad-
dorn that: And they ma-
nage all in Rhythme, with
long Speeches, almost in the
way of Dialogues, in ma-
king high Ideas of Honor,
and in speaking Noble
things. The *English*, on
the other side, make their
chief Plot to consist of a
greater variety of Actions,
and besides the main design,
add many other little con-
trivances. By this means,
their Scenes are shorter,
their

their Stage fuller, many more Persons of different Humors are introduc'd. And in carrying on of this, they generally do only confine themselves to blanck Verse. This is the difference. And hence the *English* have these advantages. By the liberty of Prose, they render their Speech, and Pronuntiation, more natural, and are never put to make a contention between the Rhythm, and the Sence. By their underplots, they often change the minds of their

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
their Spectators: which is
a mighty Benefit, seeing one
of the greatest Arts of Wit
and persuasion, is the right
ordering of Digressions.
By their full Stage, they
prevent men's being conti-
nually tyr'd with the same
Objects: and so they make
the Doctrine of the Scene to
be more lively, and divert-
ing, than the precepts of
Philosophers, or the grave
delight of Heroick Poetry:
which the French Tragedies
do resemble. Nor is it
sufficient to object against
this,

this, that it is undecent to thrust in men of mean condition, amongst the actions of *Princes*. For why should that misbecome the Stage, which is always found to be acted on the *True Theatre of the World*? There being no Court, which only consists of *Kings*, and *Queens*, and *Counsellors of State*. Upon these accounts, Sir, in my weak judgment, the *French Drama* ought to give place to the *English*, in the Tragical and lofty part of it. And now having obtain'd

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
tair'd this, I suppose they
will of their own accord
resigne the other excellency,
and confess that we have
far exceeded them in the re-
presentation of different
Humors. The Truth is,
the French have alwaies
seem'd almost ashamed of
the true Comedy: making it
not much more then the
subject of their Farses:
whereas the English Stage
has so much abounded with
it, that perhaps there is
scarce any sort of extra-
gance of which the minds
of*

of men are capable, but they have in some measure express'd. It is in *Comedies*, and not in *Solemn Histories*, that the English use to relate the Speeches of *Waggoners*, of *Fencers*, and of *Common Souldiers*. And this I dare assure *Monsieur de Sorbiere*, that if he had understood our Language, he might have seen himself in all his shapes, as a *vain Traveller*, an *empty Politician*, an *insolent Pedant*, and an *idle pretender to Learning*. But though he was not in a condi-

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
 condition of taking advice
 from our Stage, for the cor-
 recting of his own Vices,
 yet methinks he might
 thereby have rectify'd his
 judgment about ours: he
 might well have concluded,
 that the English temper, is
 not so universally heavy and
 dumpish, when he beheld
 their Theatres, no bothe
 gayest, and merriest in Europe,
 unless against said his

Concerning the English
Eloquence, he bravely de-
 clares, that all their Sermons
 P.168, in the Pulpit, and Preaching
 169. at
 -is now

at the Bar, consist of nothing
but mean pedantry. The cen-
sure is bold, especially from
a man that was so far from
understanding our lan-
guage, that he scarce knew,
Whether we move our lips, or
when we speak. But to
shew him, that we can bet-
ter judge of Monsieur de Sor-
tier's Eloquence, I must tell
him, that the Muses and
Parnassus are almost whip-
ped out of our very Schooles:
That there are many hun-
dreds of Lawyers and Preach-
ers in England, who have
long

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
long known how to contemn
such delicacies of his stilc.
I will only give one instance
for all. I believe, he could
scarce have Brib'd any
Scriveners Clerk, to describe
Hatfield as he has done, and
so to conclude, That the
Fishes in the Ponds did often
leap out of the water into the
air, to behold, and to delight
themselves with the beauties
of that place.*

I will not attempt to de-
fend the Ornaments, or the
Copiousnesse of our Language
against one that is utterly

ignorant of it. But to shew
how plentifull it is, I will
only repeat an observation,
which the *Earl of Clarendon*
has made; That there is
scarce any Language in the
world, which can properly
signify one English expressi-
on, and that is *Good Nature*.
Though Monsieur de Sorbiere
will not allow the *Noble Au-
thor* of this Note, to have any
skill in Grammar Learning.
Yet he must pardon me, if
I still believe the observati-
on to be true: At least, I
assure you, Sir, that after all
my

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
 my search, I cannot find
 any one word in his Book,
 which might incline me to
 think otherwise. A sūdā
 But I will be content to
 lay the whole authority of
 his judgement in matters of
 Wit, and Elegance, upon
 what he sayes concerning
 P. 168, the English Books. He af-
 169. firms, That they are only im-
 pudent thefts out of others,
 without citing their Authors,
 and that they contain nothing,
 but ill Rhapsodies of matter,
 worse put together. And here,
 Sir, I will for once do him a
 courtesy.

courtesie. I will suppose him not to have taken this one character of us, from the *Soldier*, the *Zealander*, the *Puritans*, or the *Rabble* of the *Streets*: I will grant he might have taken an ill conceit of our writings, before he came over, from the usual judgement, which the Southern wits of the world, are wont to passe on the wit of all Northern Countries. Tis true indeed, I think the *French*, and the *Italians*, would scarce be so unneighbourly, as to assert, that *all*

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
our Authors are Theivish Pe-
dants. That is Monsieur de
Sorbier's own addition, but
yet they generally agree,
that there is scarce anything
of late written, that is worth
looking upon, but in their
own Languages. The Italian
did at first indeavour to
have it thought, that all
matters of Elegance, had
never yet pass'd over the
Alps : but being soon over-
whelm'd by Number, they
were content to admit the
French, and the Spaniard

nour. But they all three still maintain this united opinion, that all wit is to be sought for no where but amongst themselves : It is their establish'd Rule, that good sense has always kept neer the warm Sun, and scarce ever yet dar'd to come farther then the forty ninth degree Northward. This, Sir, is a pretty imagination of theirs ; to think they have confin'd all Art to a Geographicall Circle, and to fancy that it is there so charm'd, as not to be bable

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
to go out of the bounds
which they have set it. It
were certainly an easy and
a pleasant work to confute
this arrogant conception,
by particular examples: It
might quickly be shewn;
that *England, Germany, Hol-
land, nay, even Denmark, and
Scotland, have produc'd ve-
ry many men, who may just-
ly come into competition
with the best: of these
Southern wits, in the Ad-
vancement of the true Arts
of life, in all the works of
solid reason, nay, even in*

the

the lighter studies of ornament, and humanity. And, to speak particularly of *England*, there might be a whole Volume compos'd in comparing the Chastity, the newnessse, the vigour of many of our *English* Fancies, with the corrupt, and the swelling Metaphors, where with some of our Neighbors, who most admire themselves do still adorn their Books. But this, Sir, will require a larger discourse then I intend to bestow on *Monsieur de Sorbiere*. I am able to dif-

patch

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
patch him in fewen words.
For I wonder how, of all
men living, it could enter
into his thoughts, To con-
demn in grosse the English
Writings, when the best
course that he has taken to
make himself consider'd as
a writer, was the Translation
of an English Author.*

But I beg your leave, Sir,
that I may briefly add, That
in the first Restoration of
Learning, the English be-
gan to write well, as soon as
any, the Italians only except-
ed: and that if we may
doubt ghesse

gheesse by what we see of the *Italians* at this day, the *English* have continued to write well, longer then they. Sir *Thomas Moore* was contemporary with *Erasmus*, and though he was a man of the Law too, yet he yielded not much to that incomparable man, in the plenty of his invention, or the Masculine easinessse of his stile. And e-ver since that time down to this (if we may take a mea-sure of the *English*, by what *Tully* says of the *Romans*, in their most flourishing con-
dition,

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
condition, that they had
scarce above one excellent Poet
or Orator in an age) we may
make a very advantagious
computation, for the ho-
nour of our Country. We
have at this present, as ma-
ny Masters of true and re-
all Wit, as ever Greece pro-
duc'd in one age, whose
names though I conceal, yet
posterity shall declare. We
have had many admirable
Geniuses in Poetry, who have
handled most of the antient
and modern subjects of fan-
cy, with wonderfull success.*

We

We can name many faithfull
and diligent Historians, such
as never strove to frame ^{P. 185,} ~~a~~ ^{186,}
Romance out of every story, that
they manag'd. And the
number of these will be
shortly increas'd by the da-
bours of a great man, from
whom we hope to receive
the History of our late wars,
a subject fit for the pen of a
Privy Counsellor to Kings, who
had himself a great share in
the conduct of these affairs
which he is to relate. Our
Mathematicians we may cal-
mly equal to those of all
Europe

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
Europe besides: Our Physi-
cians have long bin hap-
plauded by all the Learned
world; and certainly their
Renowned Colledge at London
deserv'd to have bin men-
tioned, as well as the Fen-
cers at the Red-Bull. Our
famous Divines have bin
innumerable, as the Dutch-
men may witnessse, who, in
some of their Theologicall
Treatises, have bin as bold
with the English Sermons, as
with our Fishing, and thidir
robberies have bin so mani-
fest, that our Church ought
to*

Voyage into England. to
to have Reprisals against
them as well as our Mer-
chants. We have had ma-
ny Philosophers, of a strong,
vigorous, and forcible judg-
ment, of happy and labori-
ous hands, of a sincere, a
modest, a solid, an unaffected
expression, such who
have not thought it enough
to set up for Philosophers,
only to have got a large
stock of fine words, and to
have insinuated into the
acquaintance of some of the
great Philosophers of the
age. And above all, we
have

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
have one small Book, which
we dare oppose to all the
Treasutes of the Eastern,
and Western Languages, it is
that which was written by
our Late King, and Martyr:
Whose Majestical stile, and
Divine Conceptions, have
not only moved all his
Readers to admire his Elo-
quence, but inclin'd some
of the worst of his enemies,
to relent their Cruelty to-
wards him.

After all these signs of
his excellent judgment, and
generous mind, there still,
sayd

Sir,

Sir, remains that which he
has given of his good Palat,
For he has boldly determin'd
the controversie, that had long
depended in all the Kitchings
of England, and France,
which is the best way of eating;
Chines of Beef, and Mutton,
or Bisques, and Potages.
This, I confess, was a mat-
ter fit to be decided by that
Historian, Critick, Mathe-
matician, Orator, and Phy-
sician, Who had Travell'd
throughout the world to ac-
quaint himselfe with all the
Learned men of all countries,

T
and

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
and to push on all Sciences
to perfection. He has here in-
deed behav'd himselfe like
the true naturall, and expe-
rimental Philosopher, whose
businesse it is to take in all
manner of observations, that
can be got from the Senses.
You see, Sir, how fairly I
treat him, I allow the ve-
ry Criticisms of his appe-
tite to be a part of his Phi-
losophy; and I look upon
his affection to Fricacie
before whole Feasts, to pro-
ceed from his love to the
Doctrine of Atoms, before
that

that of the two great standing dishes of *Matter* and *Form*. But yet I must tell him, that perhaps this Rigid condemning of the *English Cookery*, did not so well suit with his below'd Title of *Sceptick*. According to the lawes of that profession, he should first have long debated whether there be any taſt, or no; whether the ſteam of a pot be only a fancy, or a reall thing; whether the Kitchin fire has indeed the good qualities of Roſting, and Boiling;

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
 or whether it be only an
 appearance. This had bin
 a dispute more becomming
 a Sceptick; then thus to con-
 clude Dogmatically on all
 the *Intrigues* of *Haut gousſis*;
 and to raise an endlesſe spe-
 culative quarrel between
 those that had bin hitherto
 peaceful and practical *Sects*,
 the *Hasbe's*, and the *Sur-
 loiners.*

You may now, Sir, per-
 haps expect, that I should
 make some Comparison be-
 tween the *French Dyet* and
 the *English*. It were, I con-
 fess,

fess, a pleasant, and a weighty argument. But I am resolv'd to passe it over: not that I think we have the worst of the cause; but for a particular reason of my own. It is that *Monsieur de Sorbiere* may still remain in his error; For as long as he is ignorant that there is any good House Keeping in *England*, we are like to have no more of his company; yet I cannot but say to the advantage of Boiled Beef and Roast, that the English have the same sincerity.

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
in their Dyet, which they
have in their Manners; and
as they have less mixture
in their Dishes, so they have
less sophisticate composi-
tions in their hearts, than
the people of some other
Nations.*

But now, Sir, I confess
he has quite tyrd my hand,
and I almost lasham'd to
behold this heap of his va-
nities arise to such a Bulk,
as he ought to be; that he
has given me this occasion
to collect them; I will there-
fore in few words come to

an issue with him : I will
satisfie him in the request
which he makes to this
Reader. I am content to
conclude from these his three
moneths travells, what kind
of Observations he has made
in the world these thirty years.
This, Sir, is his own desire,
and I obey him. But then
I know not how he will be
able to avoid the imputa-
tion of those Crimes with
which he has so often flan-
dered the English, of be-
ing a *Doe-little*, an *Idle*,
a *Lazy*, and a *Useless Per-
son.*

*Observations on Mr. Zerbier's
son.* The description of
his Voyage into Holland is
not yet come to my hands :
but if it be of the same
thread with this, he had
bin much better employ'd,
if he had only imitated the
Roman Emperours journey
thither, and gone to gather
Cockle-shells on that shore.
If he has any friends among
all the learned men of Europe,
that were once his familiars,
they would do well to ad-
vise him what weight his
mind will bear; he is himself
in the right, when he ac-
knowledges

knowledges, that these mat-
ters of state, Characters of
Nations, descriptions of Go-
vernments, Churches, and
Courts, are far above the
weakness of his Spirit. But yet
the Mans abilities are not
wholly to be discourag'd ;
he may still prove a tole-
rable good flatterer of his
Patrons : he may bring in
his *Vostre Tres Humble*, arti-
ficially enough in the end
of an empty Letter of com-
plements : he may serve to
commend Philosophers
when they are dead : or
balim

(to

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
(to conclude with his own
dear Epithete) he may
make a sufficient *Trumpeter*
in the Common-wealth of
Learning. And in truth
he has behav'd himself, in
this account of his Voyage, like
a true *Trumpeter*; for *Trum-*
peters, when they are sent in-
to forein armies or coun-
tries, are alwayes blinded
on purpose that they might
not be able to give any
certain intelligence, of the
places through which they
pass'd.

And now, Sir, having dis-
miss'd

miss'd the *Historiographer Royal*, that I may speedily put an end to your trouble, I will only in few words apply my speech to your self. You may perhaps remember, that we have sometimes debated together, what place and time of all the past, or present, we would have chosen to live in, if our fates had bin at our own disposal; and in that discourse, instead of desiring to have bin born in *China*, we both agreed, that Rome, in the Reign of *Augustus*, was to be preferr'd

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
ferr'd before all others. The
prerogatives of that time
were very many : That City
was then become the esta-
blish'd seat of the Empire of
the world : that Emperour
had the good fortune to
succeed in a long civil war :
the minds of all men were
easily compos'd into obe-
dience by the remembrance
of their past misfortunes :
the arts of Wit, Reason, and
delight were in their high-
est perfection : the Court
was the place of resort,
for all the Lovers of gene-
rous

rous knowledge; and such was the freedom of their manners, that *Virgil*, *Horace*, and *Varius* were admitted into the privacies, and friendship, of *Agrippa*, *Menenius*, and *Augustus*. ^{ed} Beyond this we could fancy nothing pleasanter to a Philosophical mind; which was resolv'd to live according to the convenience, and Rules of Nature, seeing it might there have enjoy'd at once all the varieties of an active life, and with the quiet, and peace, of a Retir'd.

This

This, Sir, was then our opinion : But it was before the Kings Return. For since that blessed time, the condition of our owne Countrey appears to me to be such, that we need not search into antient History for a reall Idea of happiness. 'Tis true that *England* is not the seat of the Empire of the world : But it may be of that which confines the world it self, the Ocean : To this Dominion our Nation is invited, by the Scituation of our shores,

shores, the inclination of our people, and the Genius of a vigorous and skilfull Prince. The time wherein we live is upon the recovery of an Universal peace ; a peace establish'd on the two surest foundations of Fear, and Love : a peace that was accomplish'd without proscriptions, and even without the ruine of those that resisted it : a peace that was produc'd by peaceful Arts, though it was by the conduct of an Army. The footsteps of

the

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Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
the late dreadfull war are
not only vanish'd from
our ties, but now almost
from our thoughts. If any
thing of it still remains,
it is only the good effect
which it had on our coun-
try, the industry that was
excited by it, and the wis-
domc which such wofull
experience has taught us.
The Government which we
injoy, is justly compos'd
of a sufficient liberty, and
restraint. And though it
may be suspected in a que-
rulous and discontented
age,

Age, a little to incline
the people to disobedience; yet in a calme,
and a secure time (such
as this at present) it
serves admirably well to
breed a generous, an ho-
nourable, and invincible
spirit. The temper of the
English is free, Modest,
Sincere, Kind, hard to
be provok'd: if they are
not so talkative as others,
yet they are more care-
full of what they speak:
if they are thought, by
some of their neighbours,

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
to be a little defective in
the gentleness, and the
plianceness of their humour;
yet that want is abundantly
supplyed, by their
firme and their Masculine
virtues: and perhaps the
same observation may be
found true in men, which
is in Mettals, that those
of the strongest, and the
Noblest substance are
hardest to be polish'd.
The Arts that now pre-
vail amongst us, are not
only all the usefull Sci-
ences of Antiquity, but
most

most especially all the late discoveries of this Age in the real knowledge of mankind, and nature. For the improvement of this kind of light, the English disposition is of all others the fittest. And an universal zeal towards the advancement of such designs, has not only overspread our Court and Universities; but the Shops of our Mechanicks, the fields of our Gentlemen, the Cottages of our Farmers, and the Ships of

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
our Merchants.* To all
this, Sir, may be added
the Profession of such a
Religion, and the Disci-
pline of such a *Church*,
which an impartial Phi-
losopher would chuse:
which by falling with the
Tbrane, and by rising
with it again, has given
evident signe, how con-
sistent it is with the Laws
of humane society, and
how nearly its interest is
united with the prosperity
of our Country.

'Tis true indeed that
after

after all these advantages,
there may be some room
still left for future amend-
ments, in the union of
our minds, the smooth-
ness of our manners, and
the Beauty of our Build-
ings. This last was the
peculiar honour of Au-
gustus, who is said to have
found Rome of Brick, and
to have left it of Marble.
In this kind too we every
day behold a wonderful
progress, by the power-
full influence of a Roy-
al Example: so that I,

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
may in generall affirm,
that never sany Nation
in the world has pro-
ceeded by so swifter ad-
grees, to excell in Con-
veniency and Magni-
ficence. But whatever
is to be added in this,
or any other such way,
we can never receive
it from the petulant cor-
rections of such vain Ob-
servers, as this whom
I have here consider'd.
No, Sir, we are to ex-
pect it from the many
Noble and practicall Eng-
lis

Voyage into England.
the Wits of this Age:
and chiefly from your
self. For you must give
me leave, Sir, to pre-
fage, that to you your
Country is to owe very
much of its Ornament,
as well as experimental
knowledge, its reputation
and indeed all the li-
ving, and Beneficial Arts,
the enlargement of their
Bounds. This, Sir, I
know will offend your
modesty; but he is an
ill English-man, who would
not have said as much

Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
as this, when your name
was mentioned : which
if I had omitted, I had
bin almost as injurious
to our Nation, as this
very Traveller whom I
censure : for as he was
unjust in aggravating the
faults, so I my selfe had
been, in concealing one
of the principall glories
of England.

I beg of you now, Sir,
only to permit me to
conclude with some Apo-
logy for my self. You
may, perhaps, wonder all
this

this while to see me un-
dertake such an argument,
and to prosecute it in a
manner, which may ap-
pear perhaps a little too
sharp for your eye, nor
my pen. You know, Sir,
that I am enemy to all
manner of controversies,
that I hate contention,
though in matters of the
greatest concernment, and
that I had much rather de-
fend, than accuse: To this
I can therefore only reply,
for my excuse, that this
Letter may not so properly

be

*Observations on Mr. Sorbier's
be call'd an Accusation, as a
Defence: For though I have
confuted the sawciness of
one particular Man, yet I
have pleaded for a Great, a
Valiant, and a virtuous
people.*

Sir, I am.

London,

August 1.

1664.

Affectionate Servant.

THO, SPRAT.

Bate all defence of
english witts sake this
Recy that componed this
Book of England was

& Tyrant must fall
of shord of England as
Inimicous spras doth,
Dull Sorbier's surpas

1664

MAY 22 1664